

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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LA PRENSA PREDICTS BIGNONE TO BE RELIEVED

PY161639 Paris AFP in Spanish 1525 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 16 Sep (AFP) -- The conservative newspaper LA PRENSA today reported on its front page that Argentine President, Gen (Ret) Reynaldo Bignone will be relieved before the end of the year. Jesus Iglesias Rouco revealed that some of the highest-ranking officers of the army have decided that Bignone should turn over the presidency to the army commander in chief or "to another military officer."

The commentary published by the morning daily indicated that the air force and the navy could well be aware of this decision, which will not disrupt the process of rapprochement with the United States and of peace with Great Britain. Iglesias Rouco indicated that there is a 70 or 80 percent chance that the president will be relieved and that, although he cannot say whether it will take place in a few days or weeks, he believes that it will take place before the end of the year.

COMMANDERS APPROVE DOCUMENTS TO RECOMPOSE JUNTA

PY161914 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1435 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Sep (TELAM) -- The three commanders in chief of the armed forces today approved -- according to a communique released today -- all the documents which had been reconciled by their secretaries general for the recomposition of the military junta.

The communique states: "Lt Gen Cristino Nicolaidis, commander in chief of the army; Adm Jorge Isaac Anaya, commander in chief of the navy; and Lt Gen Jorge Augusto Hughes, commander in chief of the air force, today met at the Libertad Building, Navy Headquarters, beginning at 0900.

"All the documents reconciled by the secretaries general for the recomposition of the military junta were approved and issues related to the present national situation were discussed at the meeting.

"The commanders also agreed to have the air force commander, Lt Gen Jorge Augusto Hughes, take the oath of office as member of the military junta in a ceremony to be held at the National Congress Building on 21 September at 1130."

BIGNONE ON SCHISM, DEBTS, PRICE CONTROLS

PY162208 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1704 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 15 Sep (DYN) -- Today President Reynaldo Bignone "categorically" denied the existence of any schisms within the National Cabinet or the armed forces and disclosed that a series of socioeconomic measures will be announced this afternoon. However, he did not wish to disclose any information on these measures.

On the other hand and referring to the measures of force announced by the workers for next week, President Bignone stated that "although the legitimate workers unions' claims do not cease to be a matter of concern (to the government), we must set out priorities and prevent these demonstrations from upsetting the country's life or the path toward institutionalization."

The president made these statement shortly after noon when he was leaving Government House after presiding over a meeting of the National Cabinet.

Regarding the refinancing of the foreign debt, he stated that although they are still "studying" how to settle it, the government already has "a clear picture of the country's possibilities, which are clear and positive."

He added that the national authorities "are convinced that the problem of the foreign debt can in fact be overcome commensurate with the dignity of a sovereign country and all the protection which the national interests deserve.

Regarding the border conflict with Chile, Bignone stated that the signing of an agreement in Rome today "clears the way for the continuation of work with more calmness in the quest for definite solutions," since it "removes the problem of the lack of time which sometimes can hinder the search for concrete and definite solutions."

When he was asked an opinion on the fact that businessmen and merchants have termed as "arbitrary" the recently ordered control on prices, Bignone stated that the measure could not be termed as such and pointed out that the government only sought greater effectiveness over what had originally been launched as a price agreement.

Therefore, he stated, "it was necessary for the state to adopt some measures in order to ensure greater effectiveness concerning its objective of curbing the increase of prices and that he hopes that during his next meetings with the industrial sectors their leaders will "understand this perfectly."

He said that if after these meetings the industrial sectors continue to fight these price controls, then a "more effective control will be carried out."

PAPER SAYS BIGNONE DEMANDED LIFTING OF SANCTIONS

PY161745 Paris AFP in Spanish 1546 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Sep (AFP) -- President Reynaldo Bignone conditioned his staying in office to the lifting of mutual financial sanctions with Great Britain, the newspaper LA NUEVA PROVINCIA -- of the southern city of Bahia Blanca -- disclosed today. These sanctions were imposed on 2 April 1982 when Argentina captured the Malvinas Islands, and were lifting last Tuesday at Great Britain's initiative.

The president announced his decision, the newspaper says, at a meeting he held last Monday with the three commanders in chief to discuss the British proposal to lift the financial sanctions on that day.

Air Force Commander Augusto Hughes reportedly opposed the lifting of the sanctions without conducting an overall study of the situation with Great Britain by the highest military level, the newspaper adds.

Bignone replied that he had committed his authority to the negotiations held in this respect in Toronto by Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe with the deputy secretary of the U.S. Treasury Department.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON TREATY WITH CHILE; FALKLANDS

PY170203 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1635 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Sep (NA) -- Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari has stated that "the partial and conditional extension of the treaty with Chile for peaceful solutions to controversies is another demonstration of the peaceful and Latin-Americanist spirit of our country and of Chile.

In a press conference held at noon today, Lanari also said the "the treaty's extension, moreover, represents a vote of confidence in the holy father's mediation which will henceforth proceed in the expert hands of Cardinal Samore without running against the clock."

On a different subject, regarding the Malvinas, the minister reiterated that "we must neither be carried away by a sensation of triumph nor must we sink into a feeling of defeat, because nothing will be the same in the conscience of the world community after the Malvinas episode."

Lanari noted that it was timely to make this declaration on the eve of his trip to New York to attend the UN General Assembly session where "the topic of the Malvinas, which is a priority of our foreign policy, will be discussed because the will of Latin America made it imperative."

He then said: "We must continue with our policy of strengthening our ties with Latin America, without becoming lukewarm in our wish to have good relations with all countries in the world."

The foreign minister then referred to the consciousness which was raised around the world regarding the existence of a Latin American solidarity which "became apparent in the Malvinas case." He then said: "I want to make it clear that we will not let the Malvinas be forgotten; will not let the blood spilled and our dead be forgotten. We will make it impossible for the world to forget the unprecedented confrontation between a country in defense of its rights that is not a great power and powerful forces."

Lanari added that "all this was achieved thanks to the support of Latin America and the backing of many other countries of the international community. So I insist that we must not permit ourselves to be defeatist or to be carried away by a sensation of triumph. We are doing all we possibly can so that the entire world will render a just verdict, something which has been denied us and for which we are waiting."

GALTIERI GIVES INTERVIEW ON FALKLANDS WAR

PY150311 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0135 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Sep (DYN) -- Former President Leopoldo Galtieri has said that Argentina should have continued the hostilities against Great Britain after the loss of Puerto Argentino, and that the conflict could have been carried on with Latin American and Libyan assistance, not risking its internationalization.

In an interview carried in the weekly SIETE DIAS, Galtieri said that, considering the Latin American and Libyan assistance, we talked about continuing hostilities until the objectives set for the nation were attained.

Galtieri added that "we could not accept peace if accepting it meant giving up fighting for what is ours," and went on to say that "even after losing Puerto Argentino, and without internationalizing the conflict, we should have continued operations so as to create serious, permanent and systematic difficulties for the enemy to show it that Argentines do not surrender."

Galtieri, who led the nation as president and army commander in chief first during the recovery and later in the defeat in the Malvinas Islands, affirmed that the Argentine landing on the archipelago on 2 April was intended, as the Argentines would say, "to finish up with the story." He then added that "this is an objective that cannot be renounced, and that should be pursued at all costs because it has implications for the dignity and honor of the Argentine nation."

The former president began by disowning an interview granted to Italian journalist Oriana Fallaci when he was president, because, he said, "I never thought that her objective was to upset me by asking impertinent questions, thus forcing me to say things that sound naive and even ridiculous out of context."

The former president said that all possible British reactions to the Argentine landing on the Malvinas on 2 April were considered, including the foreseeable support of the United States for London. He stated that the "most unfavorable" situation for Argentina was created by the attitude of the United States, the support of Western Europe and the British decision to use all its economic, political and military clout to recover the islands.

He admitted that at the beginning nobody thought that things would take the course they did, and added that "as a matter of fact, had we considered as likely the use of the British nuclear arsenal with the support of the United States, it would have been senseless to even attempt the 2 April operation."

Galtieri harshly criticized the Italian journalist for making his declarations to her public out of context and after the fall of Puerto Argentino. Furthermore, the former president said that after reading what she wrote about me, "I learned from Kissenger's memoirs that he was very scathing with regard to her after an interview he granted her."

He then noted: "I also learned that in Italy she was sentenced to 4 years in prison for remaining 'silent as an accomplice' in the case of the death of Paolo Passolini."

Galtieri affirmed that the Malvinas war served to "tighten and consolidate the ties of Latin American brotherhood," but he declined to say whether this would imply an estrangement from the United States.

He revealed that he felt moved by the popular demonstration on 10 April, and added: "Watching the people demonstrating their sentiment that way aroused emotions that cannot be described, cannot be forgotten, and that will live with me for the rest of my life. That living presence and national sentiment of the people also gave me the impetus to proceed...proceed to victory."

The former president dismissed the idea that the 2 April operation was prompted by internal socioeconomic problems, because "getting into that (the Malvinas) was harder for me and the country than facing up to those problems." He then elaborated: "by taking the road toward democracy and adopting some measures, those problems would have been easier and less compromising than getting into the Malvinas."

Galtieri revealed that the president of Libya, Mu'ammarr al-Quadhafi, sent five Boeing planes loaded with "diverse materials, valuable elements which neither were requested nor bought; and with no political or economic strings attached."

Asked about the truth of reports that he had sent gifts to Al-Gadhdhafi (two horses and other things) Galtieri replied that "it is true; he deserved them because Libya unconditionally gave us assistance which was quite useful. This, among other things, was why we spoke of continuing hostilities until the objectives set for the nation were attained."

Galtieri complained that he is paying for his apartment under an indexation system established by circular 1050 that "is a pain in the neck, because I am one of the Argentines who have to put up with it." He then said that he is living from his salary as a retired general alone because he does not collect a pension as a former president. He explained that had given up that pension when he held the presidency, and that he is maintaining that decision.

He admitted that the Argentine Government was willing to compromise with the British to leave the Malvinas under UN administration. Galtieri concluded by saying that "peace, tranquillity and work" are his future.

LABOR MINISTER APPROVES NEW LAWS OF 28 UNIONS

PY151513 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] The labor minister has approved the new statutes of 28 labor unions which will call for elections for the renewal of their officials, thus ending a normalization process in each union.

This information was disclosed through a Labor Ministry communique which points out that the ministry will oversee the elections in order to ensure that the affiliated workers will be able to vote democratically.

The communique then points out that the statutes were approved as a consequence of their adjustment to the law of workers' unions which was decided during the assemblies held by each union.

INDUSTRIAL UNION PROTESTS PRICE CONTROLS

PY142127 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0018 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Sep (NA) -- Tonight the Argentine Industrial Union (UIA) asserted that the price control system implemented by the government "represents a serious aggression against the industrial productive apparatus."

The UIA pointed out that the government justifies this measure by "depicting the majority of Argentine industry as being comprised of monopolies and oligopolies which is an unjust and groundless statement to make."

The UIA maintains that these measures "once again discourage the generating of wealth" and points out that "the state is the real monopolistic enterprise in Argentina."

"It is the state that establishes prices at its own discretion without taking into account the effects this has on the users and consumers of raw materials and the services which are generated."

Tonight the UIA, through a document issued at the end of the meeting of the UIA board of directors, disclosed its open opposition to price controls.

The UIA maintains that the price controls which have been ordered "once again attack the effects rather than the causes" and states that the improvement of real salaries and the reactivation of the economy "will only be achieved by increasing the system's effectiveness which will encourage greater production of goods and services."

The document asserts that "inflation and speculation are the result of the excessive growth of the state and of a mistaken economic policy which has seriously harmed the productive apparatus during the past few years."

The UIA points out that "during the past few years we have opposed the maximum prices policy which the monetary exchange system entails as well as the policy to encourage the import of goods." The union pointed out that the effects of the maximum prices "have resulted in a serious deterioration, not only for factories but also for those who work in them."

The UIA document ends by stating that the improvement of the income of the productive sectors "can only be achieved through an overall effort by all producers of goods and services, as well as by orthodox behavior in the handling of government expenditures and in monetary policy."

"Therefore," it points out, "it seems strange that an attempt is being made to simplify the problem by channeling the solutions through a system that tends toward the contrived structuring of industrial prices."

YPF CHAIRMAN SEES NO NEED FOR FUEL RATIONING

PY162243 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Excerpt] The country is currently self-sufficient in oil, and if the oil sector is reactivated, it will be for the purpose of exporting oil. Therefore, I cannot understand the reason behind the economy minister's decision to ration fuels.

The chairman of Government Oil Deposits, YPF, made this statement during a radio program. He added that the economy minister's measure is a very good one if it is aimed at exporting oil and at obtaining income.

LINKS CITED TO GELLI ARREST, P-2 LODGE CASE

PY160003 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 15 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] The Argentine authorities possess a voluminous dossier on the Argentine ramifications of the P-2 Lodge whose leader, Licio Gelli, was arrested on Monday in Switzerland, Federal Party chief Fransisco Manrique revealed yesterday.

Manrique said the investigation was "secret" and added that a high-ranking official told him the P-2 dossier was at least 60 centimetres thick.

Manrique was interviewed yesterday on Mitre Radio Station.

Refusing to give any further details, Manrique said he had received his information from a "top-level" source who said that investigations into the P-2 in Argentina would be resumed following Gelli's arrest, which occurred on Monday.

"There is no reason why the investigation shouldn't continue," Manrique said.

Other sources consulted yesterday said that the P-2 investigation is being handled by the State Intelligence Service (SIDE).

Apparently, about 20 prominent Argentine public figures are mentioned in the investigation.

These reportedly include Argentine politicians who maintained contacts with Italian lodge members. But only four or five of those mentioned apparently had important positions within the lodge.

It was also reported that many of the groups mentioned in the investigation have been exercising "heavy pressure" in the last few days to prevent it from continuing any further or to, at least, condition its results.

One of the most important facts mentioned in the dossier refers to the Argentine passport Gelli had on him when he was arrested this week. Gelli is believed to have secured "safe refuge" in Argentina and Uruguay after the P-2 scandal erupted in Italy on May 2 last year.

On July 8, 1981, the daily CLARIN published statements by Peronist politician Guillermo Patricio Kelly saying that retired Admiral and former Navy Commander-in-Chief Emilio Massera was "the most important Argentine member" of the P-2 lodge.

Government Denies Report

PY161820 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] It is not true that the president of the republic dispatched two government officials to Switzerland to meet with Swiss judges in relation to the arrest of the leader of the P-2 lodge, presidential spokesman Eduardo Maschwitz stated at Government House in reply to a question.

Maschwitz said General Bignone had not ordered any trip but declined to state whether the trip could have been ordered by other government officials. He also termed inaccurate a report on a private meeting by the president with senior army officers to discuss the above issue.

WORKERS, POLITICIANS REJECT ECONOMIC PLAN

PY161601 Paris AFP in Spanish 1655 GMT 15 Sep 82

[By Eduardo Paz]

[Text] La Paz, 15 Sep (AFP) -- Facing the opposition of political parties and the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB], the armed forces government today launched the economic dialogue by outlining its economic emergency plan which will be implemented in the coming days.

An unusual meeting took place at the Bolivian Central Bank. This meeting was attended by President Guido Vildoso Calderon, ministers in the economic field, and the top leadership of the COB and of the Bolivian University Confederation [CUB].

Finance Minister Alfonso Revollo described the causes of the current economic crisis, such as the high fiscal deficit, the bad currency exchange system, the exorbitant foreign debt, the deficit in the balance of payments and the excessive issuance of currency. He added that only the implementation of the plan designed by the government will make it possible to alleviate the current crisis and to give temporary solutions to the growing inflation and the disorder prevailing in productive and banking activities.

He said that corrective measures are aimed at four [as received] main targets; reducing public expenditures, tightening control on the inflow of foreign currency, reorganizing the foreign debt, recovering international trust, and reactivating national economy. He indicated that the IMF is familiar with the government's plan and that its first phase has been approved. It is expected that an IMF mission will come to Bolivia 10 days after the plan is officially launched in order to make an in-depth study of the corrective measures and the aid which the IMF will supply.

After a briefing by economic experts the decrees drawn up by the government were read. These decrees provide for fiscal restrictions, reduction of unnecessary imports, amendments to the tax system, increases in the price of fuels, subsidies for workers, closing of exchange shops and reinstatement of continuous working hours [doing away with the long lunch break].

Juan Lechin Oquendo, top leader of the COB immediately rejected the plan on behalf of the Bolivian workers and made it clear that his presence there was only designed to obtain information.

The representatives of the Socialist Party-1 (PS-1), of the Christian Democrats (PDC) and of the United Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNRU) voiced the strongest criticisms. All of them rejected the plan because they felt that it was harmful to the interests of the Bolivian people and favorable to the interests of private sectors and the IMF.

President Vildoso spoke several times to emphasize that his government wants to exchange ideas and improve the proposed plan. He reminded everyone that his is a transition regime and a bridge to democracy and constitutionalization and that it seeks national consensus to implement the harsh economic measures.

Regarding the reports about military objections to the economic plan and turning over of power to the civilians very soon, Vildoso said that the highest-ranking military officers will meet soon to analyze the economic plan and Bolivia's overall status quo.

Observers have pointed out that the so-called economic dialogue did not meet with the approval of political and social sectors and the government is again facing isolation in the implementation of the new economic measures which, according to Juan Lechin Oquendo, will lead to popular uprisings.

Military Leaders Hold Meeting

PY161920 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The commanders of large and small units have been meeting at the Third Department of the Army since yesterday and President Vildoso's cabinet is briefing them on the political, economic and social status quo of the nation. This meeting is taking place amid reports that Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon, president of the nation, will comply with any decision of the military commanders.

General Vildoso opened the meeting yesterday afternoon urging his comrades to hold their discussions on the basis of the historical responsibility that the current situation poses for the armed forces.

It was reported that the talks are presided over by the commanders in chief of the three branches of the armed forces and that the conclusions of the meeting will be released today after the talks end this afternoon.

VILDOSO WARNS OF THREAT TO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

PY161551 Paris AFP in Spanish 0010 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] La Paz, 15 Sep (AFP) -- President Guido Vildoso Calderon has warned that the democratic process could be disrupted if the social and political agitation rampant in the nation is not curbed, according to information released here today.

Shortly before the beginning of a huge hunger march which the Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB] called in all large cities and mining districts of the nation, Vildoso Calderon urged the people to isolate the professional agitators. At the same time, the chief of state refuted reports to the effect that certain military units had asked that power be turned over to a civilian government, as former President David Padilla Arancibia (1978-1979) disclosed a few hours ago.

General Vildoso concluded by saying that a meeting of commanders of large and small units will begin discussing today the economic emergency plan which will be implemented soon. This plan includes a new increase in the price of fuels which the COB has already categorically rejected.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES NEW WORKING HOURS

PY161548 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The Labor and Labor Development Ministry has instituted continuous working hours [reducing the long lunch break] for public and private offices in La Paz. The resolution mentions the strike of public transportation that went into effect at 0000 today. This communique was issued by the Labor and Labor Development Ministry.

The Labor and Labor Development Ministry wishes to inform the people in general that in order to facilitate the development of activities in the city of La Paz and in view of the current transportation strike, it has instituted continuous working hours from 0900 until 1600. It is made clear that the private sector is entitled to adjust this schedule to its own needs and requirements.

MINISTRY INTERVENES IN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS

PY161545 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Through the Planning and Coordination Ministry, the Bolivian Government has ordered the intervention in the development corporations of Tarija and Potosi Departments for a period of 30 days.

During this period, government officials and local representatives will audit the management of funds by these two corporations.

HUNGER MARCH DECRIES IMF ECONOMIC POLICIES

PY161553 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The policy which the IMF has imposed on underdeveloped nations was the target of the mass demonstration which gathered some 150,000 workers who filled downtown La Paz. The hunger march staged by the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) was supported by some 500 unions of the district. The march started with a rally held at the history-laden San Francisco Square.

During the rally, six national labor union leaders made fervent speeches all of which criticized the monetary policy of the IMF whose suggestions on how to deal with the problems that are causing the economic crisis have been submitted to the Bolivian Government.

The representatives of mine, factory and peasant workers rejected the measures announced yesterday and demanded immediate solutions to the economic, political and social problems that the nation is facing.

At the end of the rally the 150,000 workers marched along downtown streets until they reached 16 De Julio Avenue and then returned to San Francisco Square. During the popular rally, peasant leader Genaro Flores rejected the economic proposals of the government. He said that the peasant workers are prepared to obey the instructions of the COB and slammed the so-called National Confederation of Bolivian Peasants [government-controlled]. [passage indistinct]

Filemon Escobar, representing Siglo Veinte and Catavi mineworkers, talked about the problems which these workers are having with the mining corporation of Bolivia [Comibol]. He said that the terms of the IMF make it necessary to establish a minimum salary in Bolivia. He pointed out that the imposition of the IMF will lead to further impoverishment of the humble while the wealthy will grow richer.

Filemon Escobar said that popular will should be respected and emphasized that power must be turned over to the winner of the previous elections.

Luis Lopez Altamirano, representative of factory workers throughout the country, made some concrete proposals to the government. He said that the rulers must provide an immediate solution to Bolivia's economic and social problems after consulting with the workers.

Simon Reyes, secretary for public relations of the COB, voiced the people's rejection of the situation with which Bolivia is having to cope now. He said that the critical status quo is the result of Banzerist [former President Hugo Banzer Suarez] policies which mortgaged the nation by contracting exorbitant foreign debts. The economic problems are part of the political struggle and the people cannot be left outside this struggle. [recorded passage indistinct]

Reiterating a statement that he had made to the press earlier, Reyes said that warnings that the democratic process launched by the people may be disrupted have begun to crop up. [Begin Reyes recording] Since yesterday the (?authorities) have been issuing warnings that an atmosphere of agitation could lead to the disruption of the democratic process. This is the kind of threat that [words indistinct] seeks to return to our recent past. [sentence indistinct] [end recording]

The public march lasted 3 hours and the people walked some 3 kilometers.

RESIDENCE OF NAVY COMMANDER IN CHIEF BOMBED

PY161424 Paris AFP in Spanish 1703 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] La Paz, 16 Sep (AFP) -- It was reported here today that the residence of the navy commander in chief, Vice Adm Oscar Pammo Rodriguez was bombed this morning although there were no casualties.

In view of this, the navy issued a communique warning that the armed forces will not tolerate any physical or psychological pressure against their members.

The bombing took place while the commanders of small and large units of the armed forces were discussing the fate of the nation amid a general strike which is even affecting the airlines.

[Pa Paz Radio Illiamni in Spanish at 1700 GMT on 16 September carries on its regular newscast a practically indistinct item confirming the above report]

CAPITAL CITY PARALYZED BY 48-HOUR STRIKE

PY161424 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The city of La Paz is completely paralyzed by the 48-hour strike which the departmental branch of the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) has decreed to protest the economic measures that the government is about to implement and to demand immediate solutions to the political problems and the crisis which the nation is facing.

The strike was decided by the departmental leadership of the COB and it encompasses all working sectors, including the drivers who announced their decision to join the strike. Thus the people were once again forced to resort to the kindness of owners of private vehicles while most had to rise early to walk to work.

Even though the teachers of both urban and rural areas of La Paz Department belong to the COB and will therefore observe the strike, education officials announced that "classes will be held as usual." However, the teachers have indicated that they will strike which means that there will be no classes today and tomorrow at both private and public schools.

The Labor and Labor Development Ministry has implemented continuous working hours for both today and tomorrow as a result of the strike.

Ministries' Workers Join Strike

PY161818 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The employees of five ministries have joined the strike ordered by the departmental branch of the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB). The ministries affected are Public Health and Social Security, Agriculture, Livestock and Campesino Affairs, Industry, Commerce and Tourism, Transport and Communications, and Urban Development and Housing. The activities at the La Paz Municipality and at the Central Bank were also suspended this morning.

GENERAL STRIKES IN DEPARTMENTS CONTINUE 16 SEP

PY162057 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The general indefinite strikes that Tarija, Chuquisaca and Potosi Departments have declared continue unchanged. According to reports received from our correspondents, these departments are now into their fourth day of strikes demanding the payment of mining royalties and the implementation of top priority projects.

Meanwhile, after the hunger march held in Oruro yesterday, the various labor sectors and people in general also decided to go on general indefinite strike. That strike started at 1900. The mining districts of Huanuni, Catavi and Siglo Veinte are also on general indefinite strike demanding that power be turned over to civilians and rejecting the economic emergency plan that the government is about to implement. These miners are also asking for a flexible minimum wage scale.

COB CALLS NATIONWIDE STRIKE FOR 17 SEP

PY162336 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The Bolivian Workers Central, COB [Bolivian Labor Federation], the highest organization of the country's workers, has called for a general and indefinite strike as of 0000 on Friday, 17 September. This information was passed on to us just a few minutes ago by Gonzalo Guzman:

[Begin Guzman recording] The Bolivian Workers Central has decreed a general strike with the participation of all the country's unions as of 0000 on 17 September. The COB is making the following demands: First, the transfer of the government to the candidates who gained majority support in the 1980 elections, invalidating all resolutions taken without popular participation;

Second, suspension of the new economic package and total rejection of the orientation of the country's economic policy so as to permit surmounting the crisis [passage indistinct].
[end recording]

That was a first-hand report provided to Panamericana by Gonzalo Guzman, a COB leader. This means that COB and all its affiliated unions throughout the country will go on an indefinite strike as of 0000 on Friday, 17 September 1982.

Mineworkers Call 17 Sep Strike

PY170003 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2336 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] La Paz, 16 Sep (LATIN-REUTER) -- The mining unions federation of Bolivia (FSTMB) has called for a general and indefinite strike of all of the state and private mining industry, it was officially announced today. The federation says that the strike which is to begin at midnight today is to demand the implementation of a minimum salary, the transfer of power to former President Hernan Siles Zuazo, and respect for the democratic process.

LABOR MINISTER CALLS STRIKE 'ILLEGAL, ARBITRARY'

PY170144 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Sep 82

[Report by (Daniel Alarcon) from the Miraflores garrison area in La Paz]

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Agustin Saavedra, Labor Minister Julio Villa Gomez and Interior Minister Edgar Rojas Ruiz, who met at the Interior Ministry today, called on all people and particularly on the labor sector to meditate over the country's situation.

Here is the most important part of Labor Minister Villa Gomez' message to the working class today: [Begin recording] The illegal and arbitrary strike that has been ordered by the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] is a contradictory response to the critical economic situation we are currently experiencing. It hurts me as a Bolivian citizen to see that this labor organization's contribution to the improving of our economic situation should be that of aggravating it even further. Let the people judge this arbitrary and anti-patriotic measure.

The Bolivian people know of and have observed the willingness to attain democracy in the country on the part of the government of the armed forces being led by Gen Guido Vildoso.

We have held a political and an economic dialogue with all representative sectors of the country in a clean and frank fashion. We will continue to make efforts because we are seeking unity, harmony and fruitful and productive jobs for all the Bolivian people.

However, this willingness and our strong desire for unity within the framework of overall ideas that call for the need for implementing a democratic process, should not be mistaken for weakness. There is no such weakness. Therefore, our frank willingness should not be misinterpreted. An organized society cannot function in an atmosphere of anarchy, whims and strikes, let alone when the nation is in need of the efforts of all its people to overcome the crisis it is experiencing. [end recording]

This was the most important part of the message Labor Minister Villa Gomez addressed to the media and particularly to the labor sector.

FINANCE MINISTER REVOLLO ON NEW ECONOMIC PLAN

PY170333 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Sep 82

[Excerpts] The armed forces' government has concluded the compiling of the emergency economic package, but the date this package will be put into force has not yet been specified.

The country's economic situation was analyzed by Vildoso Calderon's cabinet today. The government authorities reasserted the urge need for implementing these measures in order to prevent an aggravation of the economic situation in the country.

Finance Minister Alfonso Revollo made reference to this urgent need in the following statement he made to the journalists accredited to Government House:

[Begin recording] The economic team has submitted a coherent economic plan which is aimed in one way or another at reactivating the economy, recovering the prestige that all Bolivian people are in need of again at home and abroad, and at channeling the economic aid given by the international organizations, something which has been paralyzed for over 2 years. [end recording]

Revollo stated that he made the economic package known to all the sectors of the country on orders from the president of the republic. He added that if measures are not taken, the Bolivian people will suffer the consequences of high inflation, something which is already affecting them. This will also bring about a crisis in the exchange policy because there is a lot of speculation over the dollar exchange rate in the streets and this is not being controlled at all.

Asked about the date when the economic plan will be implemented, the finance minister replied: [begin recording] We believe that the economic plan has to be implemented as soon as possible. I repeat that the plan will impose a sacrifice on the part of all Bolivians, but it holds a positive future for all of us in return. As was mentioned during the meeting we held with the political parties, if this plan is not immediately implemented we will find ourselves very shortly with a total shortage of supplies and with an economic and exchange policy crisis that we may find impossible to overcome. [end recording]

Revollo concluded by referring to the implementation of a flexible, fixed exchange rate which would be controlled by the Central Bank. [Begin recording] This system provides that all exporters must convert the total of the foreign currency that they receive.

We would compel all the public and private exporting firms to convert all the foreign currency they still have in their hands as soon as possible, since it is something they really owe the country. The exchange rate we are planning to implement is approximately 160 pesos to the dollar. [end recording]

UDP TO OFFER PLAN TO SOLVE CURRENT CRISIS

PY162102 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP] has the means to pull the nation out of the economic crisis which it is currently facing, according to a representative of this alliance, Ramiro Barrenechea. The UDP is currently making an analysis of the nation's situation and plans to issue a statement in the coming hours. Barrenechea held an impromptu press conference during which he said:

[Begin recording] The UDP has a plan of action capable of pulling the nation out of the current crisis by changing the economic model which has been implemented in the country so far.

It is obvious that this plan of action cannot be implemented by the current government; the ruling classes must be replaced in order to change the economic model. A popular model cannot be implemented by a government which represents the antipopular interests of the ruling clique. [end recording]

The UDP is currently defending respect for the decision of the people and is still awaiting the government's reaction to popular demands.

[Begin Barrenechea recording] The people actively involved should be the ones to guarantee that there will be no maneuvers or compromises which could distort the popular plan of action and the democratic objective which the nation needs. This is what we want to do, and not even the 1980 Congress can guarantee it because those who have plunged the nation into this chaos will be represented there and will defend their interests. This reactionary military clique will have its civilian puppets in Congress.

In congress or anywhere else, we will defend the democratic and popular anti-imperialist program for which the people have been fighting for many years. [end recording]

We do not want power out of sheer whim. The people are the ones that want power and the people will give the government to us, Barrenechea said when asked about the possibility of taking over the government. The representative of the UDP headed by Hernan Siles Zuazo and Jaime Paz Zamora, did not rule out the possibility of taking over the government before the elections.

[Begin Barrenechea recording] It is a fact that the UDP has been advocating for a long time that a political solution should come as a result of popular will and popular will is usually expressed through elections. We have called for immediate elections, but we do not rule out any other means that circumstances may require. [end recording]

HAVANA REPORTS ON STRIKES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS

Conditions Throughout Country

PA161751 Havana in Quechua to Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru 1000 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] Cochabamba and Santa Cruz, two of Bolivia's leading cities, today declared a civic strike because of the poor economic and political situation prevailing in the country.

On Monday, a people's assembly in Cochabamba, which was attended by representatives of political parties and the workers, blamed general Vildoso's government and the military for the present economic situation which is leading the country to poverty and hunger.

After an exchange of views, the assembly voted to call an indefinite general strike. The assembly also voted to ask the military to turn over power to civilians and return to their garrisons. The assembly was convened by the Federation of Factory Workers.

While these events were taking place in Cochabamba, it was learned in La Paz that the Movement of the Revolutionary Left has ordered a march to demand that the government turn over power to a civilian government with Hernan Siles Suzao and Jaime Paz Zamora, winners of the last popular election in Bolivia, as president and vice president, respectively.

The workers of the Catavi and Huanuni mines are on strike to demand better salaries and other benefits. In Potosi Department, the mineworkers have declared themselves on a state of alert and will probably strike if the military does not heed to their demands. In Oruro Department, the mineworkers have set a deadline for the government to explain the mineral sales the National Smelting Enterprise is making abroad.

In Potosi, the Congress of Press Workers issued a communique charging that the government wants to continue in power like the previous ones. It criticized Vildoso's economic measures, arguing that they will lead the country to hunger and poverty and describing the measures as contrary to public interest.

Interior Minister Edgar Rojas and General Vildoso have again reiterated that elections will be held in April 1983.

According to news agency reports, the Bolivian Labor Federation is in a position to stage a large march called "March of hunger" to show the government its repudiation of the economic plans which (?may be) carried out by the IMF, which is manipulated by the big monopolies and the Yankees.

It has also been reported in Cochabamba that the 7th Army Division is on alert and that similar measures may be adopted in other departments facing disturbances, strikes or demonstrations.

Military Threatens Clampdown

PA162136 Havana in Quechua to Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru 2200 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] The chief of the Armed Forces General Staff has indicated that the armed forces will use their full strength to safeguard the state's security. By this he meant that the armed forces will clamp down on all of the sectors that are criticizing the government. However, we must also remember that by doing so, the military are leading the country toward poverty.

In statements to a newspaper, the military officer barefacedly said that if the political organizations and other sectors continue showing opposition to the government, and if such opposition grows, the military government will declare a state of siege and curfew and adopt other measures for the sake of the country's political, economic and social well-being.

Banks are still closed due to a lack of (?currency) for their banking operations. This is due to the fact that the workers of the Bolivian Central Bank are on strike to protest the dismissal of two bank workers.

Reports from La Paz indicate that students, workers and peasants are staging demonstrations in several Bolivian cities to show their opposition to the government of General Vildoso.

One of their demands is that the military turn over power to civilians, to the People's Democratic Union, UDP, the coalition that won the last elections. A coup staged by the military destroyed the UDP's victory.

Mineworkers continue their strike to demand better salaries and other benefits. Despite the military threat, it has been learned that in Cochabamba the community board of Cochabamba, which is composed of several sectors, has announced that a general strike will be declared in the department on Friday if the government does not relent. Similarly, workers of the local radio stations and newspapers have agreed to stage a strike due to the closing of two (?publishing) firms and the newspaper (MERIDIANO).

LATE REPORT: MILITARY GIVING POWER TO CONGRESS

PA171219 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1143 GMT 17 Sep 82

[Text] La Paz, 17 Sep (LATIN-REUTER) -- High-ranking military sources told this agency today that the Bolivian Armed Forces have decided to turn over power to the Congress elected in 1980.

According to the sources, the decision was made during a meeting of commanders of all of the country's military units and was communicated to President Gen Guido Vildoso at dawn.

The decision will be made official within the next few hours, when the military meeting which began 2 days ago will close, the sources added.

They said that the Congress will be installed within 10 days.

Information Minister Luis Penaranda told this agency, however, that the government has not been officially informed of the decision yet.

He admitted that this is the tendency prevailing within the military but said that there are also other tendencies which apparently do not have majority support among the commanders.

He said that there will probably be a definitive decision in this regard by noon.

GOVERNMENT RAISES BANK DEPOSITS RESERVE LIMITS

PY161755 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Sep 82

[Excerpts] The government decided yesterday to make new and drastic changes in its economic policy by approving severe measures in the financial and foreign exchange areas. Among others, these might be the repercussions of such measures; increased interest rates on the domestic market to force the contracting of credits abroad; increased exchange rate on the dollar in the nonofficial market; and reduced prospects of economic growth.

The following measures were adopted: 1) Raising the limit of the legal reserves to be maintained by private banks in the Central Bank from 40 percent to 60 percent, and henceforth to be applied not only to demand deposits but to all banking operations -- both passive ones (deposits in general) and active ones (loans and commercial papers) -- thus substantially changing the basis for calculating the legal reserves.

2) Taxing foreign exchange purchases for all trips abroad with a 25 percent IOF [Financial Operation Tax].

Explaining the change in the basis for calculating legal reserves that banks must maintain, Finance Minister Ernane Galveas noted that the limit change -- from 40 percent to 60 percent -- does not mean that the government will immediately enforce that limit across the board. The decision as to how much the limit will be raised now is to be adopted by the National Monetary Council in the next few hours.

At present, commercial banks are required to maintain a 40 percent legal reserve on demand deposits only. Although the current law allows the collection of legal reserves on term deposits as well, the Central Bank has never enforced this part of the law. Currently, these legal reserves can be made up of 35 percent cash and 5 percent public debt bonds.

Currently the legal reserves maintained by private banks in the Central Bank amount to approximately 600 billion cruzeiros which with the new measures -- which increase the limit of the legal reserves and alters the basis for calculating the legal reserves -- could amount to approximately 2 trillion cruzeiros according to some calculations made by the Finance Ministry.

The objective of this measure is to substantially drain the financial market (to withdraw money and make it more scarce). This will compel Brazilian borrowers to resort to the operations provided for in Resolution 63, to resort to foreign credits, thus helping the government to receive the \$4 to \$5 billion which it still requires to meet its balance of payments.

By making money more scarce on the domestic market, the government is creating new factors which will force an increase in the cost of money; that is, increase interest rates on the domestic market. Should this happen, it will also create a new factor which will inhibit investments which, in turn, could cause a drop in the GDP growth estimates. Theoretically speaking, inflation should drop (caused by a drop in the demand) should the GDP growth estimate drop.

If the maximum limit now established at 60 percent is enforced, the banks will be left with a small amount of free resources since, in addition to the legal reserves which the banks must maintain in the Central Bank, they have to allot a minimum of 25 percent of the demand deposits for loans to the agriculture sector; 12 percent to small- and medium-sized enterprises, and a minimum of 5 percent as a reserve (voluntary cash reserve).

Finance Minister's Comments

PY170024 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] In explaining the measures taken by the federal government in the financial sector, Finance Minister Ernane Galveas justified the need to approve this package.

[Begin Galveas recording] In view of the prospects of a monetary expansion which will increase the availability of credits on the domestic market during the remaining 3 months of the year -- as happened last year -- the government adopted a preventive measure. The government decided to establish a legal reserve on additional deposits, this includes demand deposits as well as time deposits, as a means to permit the Central Bank to prevent the monetary expansion.

Through this measure the legal reserve on demand deposits will increase from the current 35 percent up to 45 percent by the end of the year. To start with, the legal reserves to be collected by the Central Bank will be based on 30 percent of the additional deposits actually made during the remaining months of this year. For current time deposits, the measure establishes a permanent 5 percent legal reserve. A collection of 15 percent on new time deposits every month, beginning in October until the end of the year, will be made so that by then the legal reserve on the total outstanding time deposits will work out to be 5 percent. [end recording]

BRIEFS

NEW DGS CHIEF -- Gen Enio Gouvea dos Santos became the new chief of the Army General Services Department [DGS] on 8 September. Gen Enio Gouvea dos Santos was previously commander of the 4th Army. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Sep 82 p 5 PY]

PINOCHET CONFIRMS POLITICAL ROLE OF ARMED FORCES

PY161329 Paris AFP in Spanish 0145 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Santiago, 15 Sep (AFP) -- Chilean President Augusto Pinochet denied today rumors of divisions and discontent among the armed forces and asserted that they are strongly united from the top general down to the last soldier. The president warned: I may fall and the one who follows me may fall, but others will come who will continue our task and we will finish what we have begun.

In his speech on 11 September commemorating the 9th anniversary of the military government, Pinochet also stressed the unshakable unity of the institutions of order and confirmed the will of the government to continue with the institutional consolidation of the country.

In a speech to about 100 members of the Santiago Rotary Club on this day of glory of the army, Pinochet said that the armed forces will bring the country back to normal, according to the stipulations in the 1980 Constitution. According to the Constitution approved by the 1980 plebiscite, the current period of transition to democracy will end in 1989, to be followed by a stage of democratic normalization or consolidation.

He added: Once this process is concluded, we will hand over the country to the appropriate person and we will quietly go back to our barracks.

In the meantime, the government will continue elaborating the laws which complement the constitution, the president concluded, but he cautioned that we will leave some of them for the end, such as the new conception of the political parties.

PINOCHET HAPPY WITH RESULTS OF PARTIAL MEDIATION

PY161420 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2251 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] Santiago, 15 Sep (LATIN-REUTER) -- President Augusto Pinochet said today that the agreement extending the validity of the Argentine-Chilean treaty for the peaceful settlement of controversies has allowed us to enter a period of tranquillity.

The agreement was formally concluded today through the exchange of notes from the two governments in the Vatican in the framework of Pope John Paul II's mediation in the southern border dispute between the two countries.

Thanks to the mediation of his holiness the pope, we have now entered a period of peace and tranquillity, or at least a stage of tranquillity. So stated General Pinochet at a luncheon at the Santiago Rotary Club.

He added: If this had not been possible under the papal mediation, we were ready to go to the International Court at the Hague to solve the dispute. We can avoid this, at least for the time being, because of the signing of the agreement.

Pinochet concluded: I can say with satisfaction: Today we have entered a new period of the Vatican mediation in order to arrive at an understanding with our Argentine brothers.

Today, Foreign Minister Rene Rojas called the signing of the agreement as a clear success for the pope.

DEFENSE MINISTER MEETS SALVADORAN COUNTERPART

PY162248 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Salvadoran Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia [rank as heard] arrived in our country in response to an invitation by Defense Minister Lt Gen Washington Carrasco to participate in the ceremonies celebrating national independence and the day of glory of the army.

General Garcia, who is accompanied by Col (Jorge Alberto Rivera) and by their wives, was received at Arturo Merino Benitez International Airport by the defense minister and by Salvadoran Ambassador to Chile Jorge Bertrand Galindo.

SOCIALIST LEADER SCORES U.S. AID TO PINOCHET

PA162023 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] (Benjamin Cares Yanes), secretary general of the clandestine Socialist Party of Chile, has criticized the government of U.S. President Ronald Reagan noting that it is planning to increase its support for the fascist Chilean junta headed by Augusto Pinochet.

The Chilean leader said during an interview in Stockholm that the U.S. policy is aimed at strengthening the positions and influence of the United States in Latin America.

(Cares Yanes) said that the Chilean regime is one of the most cruel in the world and that there are continuous reports of torture and repression of representatives of the democratic forces.

(Ernesto Aranera), who represents the Communist Party of Chile in Costa Rica, has denounced the economic, social and moral crisis that the Pinochet regime has provoked in his country. Speaking at a news conference in the Costa Rican capital, (Aranera) said that Chile is going through an incalculably serious economic crisis and that the Chilean people endure bloodshed, torture, missing persons, hunger and the complete lack of respect for human rights.

The international relations committee of the Popular Vanguard Party of Costa Rica has expressed its solidarity with the Chilean people who are struggling in various parts of Chile against the regime imposed by force on 11 September 1973.

BRIEFS

CANADIAN AMBASSADOR -- The Chilean Government has approved the appointment of Clayton G. Bullis as the new Canadian ambassador to Chile. [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 4 Sep 82 p C 2 PY]

AMBASSADOR TO DENMARK -- The Chilean Foreign Ministry has reported that the queen of Denmark has approved the appointment of Carlos Bustos Diaz as the new Chilean ambassador to Denmark. [Santiago EL MERCURIO EDICION INTERNACIONAL in Spanish 26 Aug-1 Sep 82 p 5 PY]

SALVADORAN COOPERATION AGREEMENT -- Chile and El Salvador signed an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation during a ceremony held at the Foreign Ministry in Santiago. The ceremony was attended by Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames and Salvadoran Ambassador Francisco Bertrand Galindo. [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Sep 82 PY]

PRESIDENT APPOINTS THREE NEW CABINET MINISTERS

Public Works Minister

PA141553 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] President Oswaldo Hurtado appointed Edwin Ripalda Bonilla as the new minister of public works and communications yesterday. He replaces Rafael Robles Neira, who resigned because his party, the Concentration of Popular Forces, decided to withdraw its cooperation from the government.

Ripalda Bonilla will assume office immediately. This ministry, in addition to administering the country's public works, deals with telecommunications, railroads and postal services.

The new minister is 52 years old, graduated as a civil engineer from the Central University in 1956 and has no political affiliations. He has been a professor at the Central University and at the Polytechnic Institute, as well as a professor at and dean of the engineering school at the Catholic University. Ripalda Bonilla was also president of Quito's University Athletic League.

Social Welfare Minister

PA151917 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Excerpt] A new social welfare minister has been appointed, raising to three the number of Cabinet ministers who are political independents. The new minister is economist Alfredo Mancero Saman, who held the post approximately a year ago.

While reporting his return to the social welfare portfolio, Mancero noted that his previous withdrawal from the post was due to a request for cooperation from the People, Change and Democracy Movement and that it in no way involved any estrangement between him and the government. He noted that his return was not only a source of personal satisfaction to him but a reiteration of his commitment to society as well.

Finance Minister

PA161530 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] President Oswaldo Hurtado yesterday appointed Pedro Pinto Rubianes minister of finance and credit, replacing Jaime Morillo Battle, who resigned a few days ago.

This appointment completes the new Cabinet, following the crisis resulting from the censure and dismissal of Eduardo Ortega, minister of natural resources and energy. Ortega faced a political trial conducted by the National Chamber of Representatives. The Cabinet was also affected by the separation from their posts of secretaries of state [as heard] for public works and communications, Rafael Robles Neira, and social welfare, Patricio del Pozo, when the Concentration of Popular Forces decided to withdraw from the government.

Morillo resigned when the National Chamber of Representatives summoned him to a political trial because, as finance minister, he acted as president of the economic front.

Pinto Rubianes is 52 years old and has no political affiliation. He is a professional who participates in the country's business and industrial activities as well as in the government sector.

FRENCH DEFENSE MINISTER INTERVIEWED IN LIMA

PY142340 Paris AFP in Spanish 0358 GMT 10 Sep 82

[By Alert Brun]

[Text] Lima, 9 Sep (AFP) -- Today during an exclusive interview with AFP, French Defense Minister Charles Hernu, who is here on an official visit, stated that he is not an arms merchant and that neither had he brought a catalog in order to sell arms to Brazil or Peru, which are the two countries he will have visited during his tour through South America. He also stated that France is a nonaligned country.

However, I always maintain that it is better to purchase arms from France than from the USSR or another country, because we know that when purchases are made from one of the two great powers, the other great power immediately offers its arms to neighbors, thus sparking ideological conflicts.

Hernu straightforwardly answered the questions on the controversial French stance during the conflict over the Malvinas during which the French Socialist Government, technically speaking, supported colonialism by placing an embargo on the shipment of French missiles to Peru with the excuse that it could not deliver the missiles for technical reasons. France counterbalanced this attitude by not pronouncing itself on Malvinas sovereignty, that is, it recognized neither Argentine nor British sovereignty over the islands.

The French minister tackled interdependent issues by giving direct answers to direct questions which were presented in a single package. Some of his aides were obviously concerned by the fact that he was not given written questions beforehand.

Malvinas embargo on shipment of Exocets to Peru: This is a question which nobody, neither here nor in Brazil, has asked me, but since you are a journalist friend who has asked it, I will explain it to you. I have been the first one to mention the subject ever since I arrived in Peru, but no minister or militaryman has referred to this. I presume they consider it a subject of the past and that they were talking with a minister of the present. I cannot therefore make any comment since nobody has brought the subject up.

But having said that, I would like to add something: France is a member of the EEC. France immediately voiced its solidarity with the remaining members of the EEC, and our Peruvian friends understand our respect for our commitments as they respect theirs.

Nobody's sensitivity has thus been hurt. Each one knew the rules of the game. As soon as the conflict ended, France lifted the embargo, even for Argentina.

The collective decision adopted by the EEC only resulted from our concurrence with Resolution 523 of the UN Security Council, but, I stress this point, France made no pronouncement regarding sovereignty over the Malvinas, because on this point we have total freedom of decision.

The fact that you are the only one who has asked this question leads me to believe that nobody else here doubts the credibility of the French president's words or of France.

Apart from the interview, Minister Hernu analyzed French-Latin American relations in the light of the Malvinas for a group of his fellow countrymen by saying that this is the first visit to Peru by a minister of the current government. One should take the lead so that others may follow... We had to resume a position in Latin America. True, our relations with countries such as Peru could have deteriorated more seriously through the Malvinas conflict, which posed problems for our nation. But our solidarity with the EEC while avoiding a pronouncement on sovereignty should be understood. On this, I insist, France's position is that of the UN Security Council resolution.

Reports from Brazil say that your visit there had concrete results -- military-technical cooperation, for instance. Will something like that happen here?

Turning back to the interview, the minister replied by saying that the results in Brazil refer to technical assistance, not to arms sales, and -- no offense intended -- that country has a right to its security and needs to keep its workers in their jobs.

So we negotiated with Brazil agreements of the technical assistance type; with reciprocity, by the way, because France buys planes from Brazil.

Please, Mr Minister, and Peru?

I must tell you that this is my first morning here. Could I announce any agreement? I cannot say anything at this time because I have not yet met with President Belaunde. It would be improper. We can talk again once I know what the president thinks.

But the truth is that I am here at the invitation of the Peruvian Government, and obviously it is up to the government to ask or not to ask. I do not come to make proposals. I am not here carrying an order slip or an arms catalog. After I meet with the president, I will try to answer your question. Right now, I can't.

HAVANA REPORTS ON INSURGENCY ACTIVITIES

19,000 Arrests Reported

PA161642 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] The Peruvian Government has extended for 60 days the state of emergency in Victor Fajardo Province in Ayacucho Department where armed groups have attacked police garrisons and government offices. The newspaper LA TERCERA has reported that more than 19,000 people have been arrested in Lima and Callao since the state of emergency was established in the two provinces on 19 August.

Meanwhile, lawyer Gonzalo Pastor Samanez reiterated that he will request the exhumation of the body of young woman Edith Lagos who died on 3 September under confusing circumstances. Her relatives insist that she did not die in a clash with the police as the government says but that she was taken alive, tortured and then murdered.

Attacks in Ayacucho

PA161955 Havana in Quechua to Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru 2200 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] A group of armed men has destroyed the installations of Radio Ayacucho, located in the department of the same name. The Peruvian newspaper LA TERCERA reported that the soldiers guarding the station fled when they saw the large number of armed men who launched the attack. The same newspaper reports that armed men destroyed a microwave tower on the road to Andahuaylas, near Apurimac, also in Ayacucho Department.

The police have reported that Edith Lagos, the well-known leader of the Shining Path Movement, died in a clash Friday. Some sources said that this clarification issued by the police is untrue. They also asked for the realese of (Norma) [surname indistinct].

Entirely reliable sources have reported that in (Canate) a group of armed men clashed with [words indistinct] people in Cajamarca Department. It was also learned that eight guerrilla suspects were arrested.

COSTA RICAMONGE ADDRESSES PEOPLE ON NATIONAL HOLIDAY

PA161809 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] President Luis Alberto Monge today urged all Costa Ricans to fight the economic crisis and reiterated that Costa Rica will continue to be free and sovereign without armed forces. The chief of state affirmed that Costa Rica is the only country in the entire world that practices total disarmament.

Here is the message which the president of the republic delivered this morning during the official ceremony commemorating the 161st anniversary of our independence:

[Begin recording] We do not have armed forces and shall not have armed forces. Let us remember that we Costa Ricans are like the bees which, if left alone, will spend their entire lives flitting from flower to flower and busy in their hives producing their sweet honey but, which whenever an intruder places his clumsy hands over their hive, become enraged and defend it like all patriotic people defend their dignity, their sovereignty and their independence. [applause] [end recording]

COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GUATEMALA

PA101547 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] The Guatemalan-Costa Rican Permanent Mixed Bilateral Committee, headed by the Guatemalan and Costa Rican deputy finance ministers, Carlos Orantes and Odalier Villalobos, respectively, signed a commercial agreement at the conclusion of a 2-day meeting held in this capital.

The agreement calls for the addition of a number of Guatemalan products to the list of goods enjoying the interbank exchange rate. It was also agreed to summon the manufacturers of electronic products of both countries for a meeting on 16 September in Guatemala to reestablish the bilateral agreement on these products.

The mixed committee, which will next meet in Guatemala on 17 September, today approved the provisional agenda for that meeting, which includes among other points the revision of the list of Guatemalan products that do not enjoy the preferential exchange rate and a report on the results of the meeting of electronic product manufacturers.

ARGENTINA GRANTS \$30 MILLION IN CREDIT

PA141838 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Costa Rica has signed an agreement with Argentina for a \$30-million line of credit. Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez signed the agreement in the presence of Ruben Antono Vela, Argentine ambassador to Costa Rica, noting: We must recognize the generosity of the Argentine Government; after going through one of the most bitter times in its history, the Malvinas case, it is offering our country an initial credit line of \$15 million with an option for \$15 million more.

Volio Jimenez added: This will enable us to finance [words indistinct] projects in the ministries, in accordance with their functions. I must praise this gesture, as it is a sign of true solidarity. The Argentine Government is thus formalizing a \$15-million line of credit that the Costa Rican Government will devote immediately to capital goods. These \$15 million will be invested in durable and semi-durable goods, other goods and manufactured products, and in technical services, research, studies and industrial factories.

For his part, Vela expressed his admiration for the Costa Rican people, their institutions and their government, which gave his country the support in requested in the struggle to defend what it continues to believe rightfully belongs to it.

NEW EXTRADITION TREATY WITH U.S. SOUGHT

PA141820 Paris AFP in Spanish 2045 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Excerpts] San Jose, Sep 13 (AFP) -- Costa Rica and the United States will negotiate a new general extradition treaty that will outlaw the presence in Costa Rican territory of approximately 60 U.S. criminals who are currently protected by law. This announcement was made today by Justice Minister Carlos Guitierrez. The current Costa Rican administration, which took power on 8 May, has announced its intentions of changing the country's image as a "refuge for fugitives."

The government is seeking to obtain approval for a general extradition treaty with the United States that will include all crimes and that will facilitate the extradition of criminals.

EL SALVADORMAGANA ON APANECA PACT PEACE COMMISSION

PA151515 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 14 Sep 82 p 52

[Unattributed column: "Last Night's Events"]

[Text] The peace commission will soon be established, President Dr Alvaro Magana announced yesterday, a few hours after the Apaneca pact Political Commission ended its third meeting. This peace commission will be charged with implementing projects for immediate pacification of the country, within the framework of the Apaneca pact, which is also known as the Basic Government Platform.

Sources close to the presidency said that the Salvadoran Government will not agree to mediation to solve the nation's problems, because it has sufficient appropriate legal mechanisms and because it itself represents the people's interests. Once the peace commission begins its activities, it will study the country's general situation and will make appropriate suggestions, as a preliminary step toward the general solution of our country's problems.

President Magana said yesterday that to date there has been no modification or change in the position of the government over which he presides and that "in any event it will be the peace commission's task to study the situation and to make the necessary suggestions on a timely basis, once it is installed."

NO NEGOTIATIONS FOR CASTILLO'S RELEASE REPORTED

PA151446 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1240 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] San Salvador, 15 Sep (ACAN-EFE) The International Red Cross delegation in El Salvador has told ACAN-EFE that it is not involved in negotiations for the release of Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo, Salvadoran deputy defense minister, who has been held by the guerrillas since 17 June.

The rebels took Colonel Castillo prisoner when they downed the helicopter in which he was travelling near San Fernando Hill in Morazan Department, in El Salvador's eastern region. The International Red Cross reported that it visited the officer recently and took him messages from his family.

Late last week, the FMLN, through telephone calls to various media in San Salvador, announced Castillo's release, but so far no official source has confirmed or denied this report. Salvadoran Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia recently told newsmen that the army is not negotiating Castillo's release with the guerrillas. The army views Castillo as having been kidnapped, while the guerrillas consider him a prisoner of war.

PCN FACTION SUPPORTS EXPELLED PARTY MEMBER

PA161600 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 14 Sep 82 p 56

[Paid advertisement of the "autonomous faction" of deputies of the National Conciliation Party; dated 13 September, San Salvador]

[Text] The autonomous faction of deputies of the National Conciliation Party [PCN] in the Constituent Assembly has decided the following with regard to the arbitrary decision taken against our colleague, Dr Maria Julia Castillo, which the media has reported:

1. We give total support to and express firm solidarity with fellow Deputy Dr Maria Julia Castillo.
2. The outrage committed against our fellow deputy is also an outrage against a representative of Salvadoran women who so courageously showed their democratic and nationalist spirit on 28 March.
3. Such political behavior and attitude only shows arrogance and abuse of power and confirms our previous charge that the traditional coercive and antidemocratic methods have yet to be overcome.

On making the above known to our fellow party members, friends, sympathizers and citizens in general, we also state that if these coercive and immoral procedures continue, this faction will be forced, to its regret, to withdraw from the party and it makes the top leadership responsible for the consequences that may result from this attitude.

EXPLOSIVES FACTORY DISCOVERED; FIVE ARRESTED

PA162315 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 14 Sep 82 p 56

[National police communique issued in San Salvador on 11 September]

[Excerpts] Following investigations by the national police generated by a telephone call received by the police complaints office, five persons have been arraigned before the military judge at the Defense Ministry in San Salvador. They were recently arrested at the United Industrial Factory, located at No 157 in Pasaje Contreras, La Rabida neighborhood in San Salvador. The factory was searched because its operations aroused suspicion. The following persons were arrested there:

1. Salvador Galileo Martinez Flores, a graduate chemist and professor at the School of Chemistry and Pharmacology of the National University.
2. Roberto Antonio Antillon Nunez, a 19-year-old [as published] physicist who is a professor at the same school. He is married and comes from Santa Ana.
3. Francisco Americo Mejia Bolaines, another professor of the School of Chemistry and Pharmacology of the National University. He is a 33-year-old physicist from Zacatecoluca.
4. Joaquin Roberto Mendez Molina, a chemist and professor at Francisco Gavidia University. He is 30 years old, married and a native of Santa Ana.
5. Ana Elsie Rivera Irula, a 25-year-old employee who is single and a native of San Salvador.

In addition to the listed persons, the following were also arrested: Mauricio Ernesto Martinez Rivas and Oscar Romero Cienfuegos Banos, who work at the factory. They were later released after no charges were filed against them.

According to their statements to the police, Salvador Galileo Martinez Flores is a member of the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers, PRTC, a leftist clandestine organization.

Martinez is known by his alias of Newton. He was recruited by "Tono Lue," whom Martinez met at the National University in 1980 when he was teaching general chemistry. In April 1981, "Tono Lue" convinced Martinez to work on the installation of a laboratory and factory to produce the explosive material TNT in block form. The material would be used later in terrorist attacks by the PRTC and the Armed Forces of National Resistance, FARN.

To this need, "Tono Lue" and another PRTC member known as "Miguel" gave Martinez Flores 20,000 colones. Between August and December 1981 Martinez delivered to these men 295 kilos of TNT in block form to be used to blow up automatic exchange boxes of the National Telecommunications Administration, Antel; buses; minibuses; trucks; towers of the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL; and other objectives in the government, commerce, bank and industry sectors. The material was delivered to the men in small plastic barrels. In addition to TNT, the factory produced bleach, distilled water, tincture of iodine, tincture of balsam, soap, caustic soda, sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, [words indistinct] and other chemical substances, to disguise its true clandestine function.

It is known that the PRTC is planning to form its own armed group, called the Armed Commandos for Liberation [Commandos Armados de Liberacion, CAL] to continue subversive terrorist activities in the departments of Usulután and San Vicente. Ana Elsie Rivera Irula was in charge of typing the reports for the FMLN and FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front]. The arrested men added that the salaries of the factory workers were paid with funds from the PRTC and FARN. The other arrested people, Roberto Antonio Antillon Nunez and Francisco Americo Mejia Bolaines, declared that they joined the PRTC early this year. Martinez Flores trained them to carry out secret jobs of preparing analyses and reports about the political-military situation in El Salvador and to prepare a book that would be presented before an FMLN-FDR Congress.

Professor Martinez Flores was in charge of the production of TNT in block form to be used for sabotage, according to the prisoners. They added that in addition to this clandestine job, they work as teachers: Antillon Nunez works in several secondary schools in San Salvador, and Mejia Bolaines works at La Asuncion school and the Polytechnic University in El Salvador. They are also professors at the National University. Joaquin Roberto Mendez Molina frequently visited the factory and knew that the workers and leaders were members of the PRTC. He is a professor at Francisco Gavidia University. Ana Elsie Rivera Irula admitted that she typed reports, summaries and analyses of the PRTC and FMLN-FDR terrorist activities, mainly on instructions from Salvador Galileo Martinez Flores.

When these people were arrested, the following material was confiscated and placed at the disposal of the military judge: several plastic containers of pure sulfuric acid, processed sulfuric acid, nitric acid, methyl-benzene acid, liquid detergents, documents and propaganda.

FMLN ISSUES INDEPENDENCE DAY COMMUNIQUE

PA161946 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Communique issued by the FMLN General Command to the Salvadoran people on 15 September -- read by announcer]

[Excerpt] The General Command of the FMLN declares:

1. This year our independence festivities are being celebrated in the framework of a broad popular revolutionary struggle at a time when this struggle has forced the dictatorship to show its true sell-out and traitorous essence against the national interests by permitting Honduran and U.S. troops to violate our sovereignty and to trample our right to self-determination with their growing and shameless intervention.

2. The Salvadoran Army emerged from the people's resistance led by Jose Matias Delgado and Manuel Jose Arce in the face of the invasion sent by Iturbide to impose the annexation of Central America to the so-called Mexican empire which the Salvadoran people rejected, thus defending the recently obtained independence. The D'Aubuisson-Garcia-Moran-Carranza clique now wants to turn the army into a tool that will facilitate and sponsor the intervention of foreign troops in our soil.

3. This situation has reached such extremes that the army high command has made territorial concessions in the areas bordering on Honduras in exchange for the Honduran Army's participation in the genocide and repression of our people. This traitorous and humiliating action in which the Honduran high command and officers led by General Alvarez (?are participating) is the result of an agreement reached between General Garcia and General Alvarez.

The intervention process has reached such a level and so deeply hurts our dignity that international news agencies recently reported that U.S. military advisers would take part in the organization and coordination of the parades and presentations of the Salvadoran Army in the independence festivities. This is a way to portray the presence of the U.S. interventionists as normal and suitable.

5. In the face of the dictatorship's crisis in all areas, the threat of direct intervention by U.S. troops has become more evident. Honduran troops have already begun to intervene in our territory, thus producing a deepening of the war and a situation that will affect all the social and political sectors of our country since our people are kept from participating in a solution that will be based on our national interests. This also facilitates the fulfillment of the Yankee plan to extend the war to all Central America, attack Nicaragua and drown in blood the liberation desires of the Central American peoples who are now struggling.

In view of the above and because we cannot permit the symbols of our nationality and the historic roots of the sovereign and hard-working people to be dishonored by being used to support the betrayal and surrender of our Salvadoran and Central American homeland, the general command has decided, on occasion of this 15 September 1982, to implement the following measures effective today:

1. At all FMLN camps, military honors should be rendered to our national flag along with our revolutionary flag during all important events.
2. In the same manner, our radio propaganda organs should begin their broadcasts with the national anthem.
3. A campaign will be carried out for the recovery of our historic values so that they will not be abused by the enemies of our people. Those enemies distort the real historical significance of the heroes and martyrs who have died and are dying in the current liberation struggle of the Salvadoran people. They go into the history along with the great leaders of national independence and Central American independence and all the patriots who throughout our existence as a nation have struggle for freedom, social progress and the people's rights and interests.

COMMUNIST LEADER HAILS SOLIDARITY WITH STRUGGLE

PA111635 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] (Jaime Barrios), member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of El Salvador, in Berlin today described the solidarity that his people are receiving in their struggle for liberation as a great help. (Barrios), who is also an FMLN representative, added that the guerrillas are dealing mortal blows to the regime's troops, and that more fighters are joining the rebel forces every day. Referring to the March elections, (Barrios) said that they were prepared by the U.S. Government, and that they have not changed the situation of the people at all.

REBEL RADIO REPORTS AIR ATTACKS, OTHER BATTLES

PA112155 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] The Salvadoran Air Force bombed and strafed the civilian population of the cantons of Bolivar, La Loma and other places in Usulután, according to reports from Radio Farabundo Martí. The station adds that an A-37 aircraft dropped five 250-lb bombs and a heavy load of rockets over northern San Miguel Department. Radio Farabundo Martí reports that the Salvadoran Army's new tactics now include daily air attacks against the rebel populations. Meanwhile, FMLN fighters reported an attack on the military outpost at Nueva Trinidad as well as clashes in San Jose and other areas.

FMLN CHARGES DEATH SQUAD MURDERED TEACHERS

PA100330 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] The death squads led by Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, president of the Constituent Assembly, have murdered (Mauricio Brand) and (Ramon Irene Velasquez), teachers and members of the 21 June National Association of Salvadoran Teachers, ANDES 21 June. According to police sources, the two teachers' bodies were found on 6 September on the road from Usulután to San Rafael, in San Miguel Department. These actions show that the repressive campaign orchestrated by Major d'Aubuisson and General Garcia is now aimed at Salvadoran teachers, while before, the Christian Democrats were the target. Andes 21 June has denounced this police and death squad campaign against the teachers, which includes persecution, arrest, [word indistinct] and even murder.

FMLN SOUTHEASTERN FRONT REPORTS ACTIONS

PA110404 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Here is a war report from the Francisco Sanchez southeastern front, San Miguel-(Tres Calles) sector:

On Tuesday, 7 September, at 1100, FMLN forces staged harassment attacks on enemy positions in Jiquilisco, Usulután Department. Our forces annihilated two enemy [word indistinct]. our forces withdrew without any problem. This action was led by Companero (Ariano). That same day at 2300, FMLN militias led by Companero (Alonso) sabotaged two crop-dusting planes of the Rosita farm in (Rosita), Canton Jiquilisco jurisdiction. These two light planes were owned by Luis Echeverria, a well-known counterrevolutionary. Our forces withdrew in an orderly manner and without any problem. This report is signed by Companero (Checo).

GUERRILLA FRONT REPORTS SABOTAGE OF POWER LINES

PA151546 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 15 Sep 82

[War bulletin issued by the FMLN's Feliciano Ama western front in El Salvador -- read by announcer]

[Text] A high-tension tower was blown up on 7 September at 2100. As a result, several transformers in the area close to Ahuachapan burned out. Ahuachapan itself, Atiquizaya, Chalchuapa, Turin and other communities were left without electricity. The power outage lasted approximately 15 hours. On the night of 15 September, [as heard] an FMLN commando group led by Companero Nacho blew up a high-tension tower near Primavera canton, Santa Ana. The tower was completely destroyed. United to fight until final victory! Revolution or death, we will win!

[Signed] Commander Miguel Ramirez.

GUERRILLAS CHARGE MASSACRES, REPRESSION INCREASE

PA151622 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] The following is a report from Ahuachapan:

During the last week of August, army troops headquartered in Ahuachapan staged a repressive operation against the civilian population and captured approximately 25 workers, whose whereabouts are unknown. The army also massacred families in Chalchuapa. During the first week of September, the enemy increased the repression in Santa Ana through searches, during which 20 innocent workers were captured. Some of these captures were made during a search conducted by the police and army troops in the (Ivu) district. Radio Venceremos denounces the repression that has been unleashed by the ultrarightist government in the country's western departments, where it is constantly kidnapping, torturing and murdering our people's best children.

CORRECTION TO ASSEMBLY VP'S EXPULSION FROM PCN

The item entitled "Assembly Vice President Expelled From PCN", which was published on p 5 under El Salvador in the Central America section of the 15 September 1982 Latin America DAILY REPORT, was published with an incorrect sourceline. The correct sourceline is as follows: "San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0050 GMT 13 Sep 82"

GUATEMALAGOVERNMENT BULLETIN ANNOUNCES FOUR TO DIE

PA170209 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 17 Sep 82

[Government press bulletin released in Tegucigalpa on 16 September -- read by announcer]

[Text] The government of the republic announces to the Guatemalan people that 40 persons have been brought before the special courts. Of these, 22 have been acquitted, 8 have been released pending a decision, 6 are awaiting sentence and 4 have been condemned to die. Those condemned to die are: Jaime de la Rosa (Rodriguez), Julio Hernandez Perdomo, Marcelino Marroquin and Julio Cesar Vasquez (Suarez). They will be shot to death at 0600 tomorrow at the general cemetery.

Jaime de la Rosa (Rodriguez) was tried for the following crimes: double homicide, treason, theft, attacks on the integrity and independence of the state, illegal appropriations, membership in illegal organizations and possession of firearms. De La Rosa (Rodriguez) was charged with the murder of Policeman Miguel Angel Lopez Gomez at approximately 1730 on 12 August 1982 at Cemetery Avenue and 24th Street, Zone 3, Tegucigalpa, and with being an active member of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army [EGP], crimes for which he was arrested.

De La Rosa (Rodriguez) admitted under questioning that he was guilty of the crimes of which he was accused and his confession was corroborated by the depositions of the policemen who arrested him. He was assigned a public defender and all the appropriate procedures were followed, all of which proved that the defendant killed Policeman Miguel Angel Lopez Gomez and is a member of the EGP, within which he learned to handle weapons on a mountain in Coban, Alta Verapaz, called (Titiran). At that site he was trained to carry out subversive activities against the country's institutions. The court that tried him in accordance with existing laws, after the charges made against him had been clarified and proved, sentenced him to death. Julio Hernandez Perdomo, Marcelino Marroquin and Julio Cesar Vasquez (Suarez) were tried for attempted murder, grievous assault, double theft and participation in various attacks on military and civilian personnel, as well as membership in the clandestine EGP and having participated in terrorist activities such as the distribution of various leaflets and propaganda and causing the violent deaths of various persons. They also confessed to having carried out activities aimed directly at underminint the sovereignty of the republic and national unity.

A public defender was assigned to them and, as in the previous case, all the pertinent procedures were complied with until, the judicial action being completed, they were found guilty of crimes that are punishable by death under the laws currently in force in the country.

RIOS MONTT SPEAKS AT STATE COUNCIL INAUGURATION

PA160156 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 2217 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Speech by Guatemalan President Brig Gen Jose Efraim Rios Montt at the inauguration of the State Council, held at the legislative palace in Guatemala City -- live]

[Excerpts] Our Guatemala of today is pluralistic and multifaceted, with problems and maladjustments. It is backward in many respects [words indistinct] and with an unbalanced economic growth, but Guatemala still hopes to take actions to achieve real solutions.

The dynamism used by this government to make social changes, and with those changes give consistency to our nationality, is evident. Proof of this is that local politicians and businessmen who are exploiters and have imported political ideas try to classify the government as being of the right or the left. What they ignore is that all social systems change constantly, and that the present government believes that changes result in positive and negative aspects. However, this government is aware that changes are a fact and a challenge.

Let it be clear that 23 March generated a reformist policy that is not rightist, because the right denies the existence of social conflicts. This reformist policy is not leftist because it is beyond any utopia, and because to the leftwing that which is not revolution must then be reactionary. Our reformism creates a balance between a resistance to change and a desire for transformation. Our reformism intends to act gradually without any divisions or violence, making common sense prevail in order to solve conflicts and devote our efforts (?to you and others) in order to face hatred without hypothetical futures or romantic pasts.

Our reform or reformism is characterized, among other things, by the following aspects: It believes in continuity and modernization. It believes that each goal reached or achievement made is only a platform to begin new actions. It is aware that what has been done in the past must not be destroyed, but it does not believe in mortgaging the future, and for this reason it demands efforts here and now. It accepts the existing structures but promotes changes in order to adjust them and bring them up to date according to the Guatemalan reality. It respects the different ideas and ideologies, and it is even more respectful of the people who have them, as long as they don't use the force of weapons. We believe in reasoning and persuasion and not in the violence that results from force and ignorance. We believe that political actions must be subordinate to ethical and moral norms in order to build a more just, fraternal and human society.

Members of the State Council: the political concept that we are defining as reformism or Guatemalan reform will be achieved when we reach various goals, which -- divided into short-, medium- and long-term goals -- will form the basis on which our nationality will rest.

Other general goals -- we will establish specific goals by mutual agreement and according to the encouragement that we receive from the participation of sectors interested in the country's development -- include the following:

1. This State Council will legislate the privileges and [word indistinct] of Guatemalans, basing the laws on everything that concerns human rights, thus strengthening them. These rights must be studied, explained, taught and practiced, and these principles must serve as the groundwork for any kind of [word indistinct]. It is the wish of this government to include within Guatemala's basic laws everything that has to do with human rights.

2. The State Council will propose a legal procedure through which it guarantees a political development with maximum security and respect for social stability. To do this, we must obtain minimum agreements for the country's democratization and thus find our own system, efficient but [word indistinct], just and flexible but also capable of facing the country's problems with a strong state to represent, consolidate and [word indistinct] Guatemalans.

3. The State Council must also draft a temporary law to elect the members of a constituent assembly. This will pave the way for an expansion of our political life through true representation of all Guatemalans, promoting the participation and consolidation of the state through the people's encouragement and the organization of many individuals and social groups, in order to have a more [word indistinct] society, thus stressing our unity and achieving pluralism within a climate of liberty.

This day is very special for me, and I believe it must be very special for you as Guatemalans, because in installing the State Council we are taking a strong step and are building one of the strongest pillars on which the new Guatemala will rest.

The creation of the State Council, which includes many personalities of all Guatemalan sectors, has sought to cover representatives from all those who make up this homeland. It not only includes those who are prominent in traditional areas, but all those who are prominent individuals in the formation of our nation: The Guatemala that belongs to all Guatemalans. This organization seeks, through representatives from each of the country's corners and from each sector, to solve our problems and meet the needs of each sector according to its own traditions.

Therefore, we are all beginning. Perhaps for the first time in our history we have begun to reconcile ourselves in a dialogue and in a dynamic action that allows us to identify ourselves with our compatriots and with their compatriots. In other words, we must work for what is ours but also for the interests of our brothers.

It is time for all of us to give to the homeland, not only with words and ideas but with actions and with the fruit of our work. It is time to give without expecting anything in return. This State Council is thus inaugurated. I pray to God that this instrument will be a blessing for this nation [words indistinct]. Thank you.

STATE COUNCIL PRESIDENT ON DEVELOPMENT TASKS

PA161403 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 2237 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Speech by Guatemalan State Council President Jorge Antonio Serrano Elias at the installation of the State Council held at the legislative palace in Guatemala City -- live]

[Excerpts] We are again making history in this country today, 15 September 1982, because, for the first time in its independent life, representatives of significant groups of Guatemala are meeting here to begin a frank dialogue that will provide solutions which affect and interest us all.

I can stress with confidence that we are taking the most important step in our country's life to end, once and for all, the actions of the conquest, and are now paving the way for an era of coparticipation and respect. This State Council has been tasked with giving advice on political, economic and social matters in an effort to find the way toward a democracy based on respect, the exercise of human rights and [word indistinct] institutions. We want to be guided to a permanent development in a harmonious process of changes that improve our people's living conditions and guarantee the creation of a functional political system with ample popular participation so that each Guatemalan can make his dreams come true with spiritual, political, economic and social freedom.

This council has also been tasked with drafting an electoral law and a law on political parties. This is a key element in our future because, through this law, we will establish the regulations of what we can describe as the great project to return to constitutionality as well as full and permanent democracy in our country. We understand this action as a process to guide and regulate the country's political organization in order to guarantee in the best possible way the maximum participation of citizens in basic decisions required for the juridical formation of our society and for the orientation of each one of the cultural, economic and social processes which affect the citizens' lives, rights and responsibilities. In sum, one of our tasks will be to restructure a democratic mechanism that guarantees respect for the people's will and will allow each citizen to thoroughly participate. It isn't a matter of creating a mechanism for elections which only responds to the electoral aspirations of certain people, thus ignoring the needs and wishes of the majorities.

In conclusion, Mr president, you have very wisely asked this council to draft a document creating a national commission on human rights which must see to it that the people's human rights are respected in our country. We must do everything possible to put this commission above any coercion. We are glad to comply with this request.

Mr president, we will work very hard to fulfill this responsibility given to us.

PRESS REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED TO STATE COUNCIL

PA170106 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE 9 Sep 82 p 2

[Text] The government has appointed newsman Marco Tulio Trejo Paiz, president of the Guatemalan Chamber of Journalism [Camara Guatemalteca de Periodismo -- CGP], to represent the local press in the State Council that will begin functioning on 15 September. Trejo Paiz was interviewed yesterday by newsmen when he arrived at the General Secretariat of the Presidency in response to a call informing him of the government's decision.

Trejo Paiz said that he had received a telephone call informing him that he is to be a member of the State Council, but he explained that he will participate as a private citizen since, as the public knows, none of the press organizations has agreed to participate in the institution. "I am going to accept this appointment," he said, "and I will work for the good of local journalism, particularly to see that the free expression of thought is preserved. He added that he had proposed other persons for membership in the council, but had not imagined that he would be appointed.

PRESS OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON MULTIPARTY STATEMENT

PA161626 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] Rafael Escobar Arguello, public relations under secretary of the Guatemalan Presidency, said today that the political parties and their leaders should do everything possible to respect the law.

Escobar Arguello was referring to the statement issued yesterday by the leaders of the MLN [National Liberation Movement], the PNR [National Renovating Party], the CAN [National Authentic Central] and the DCG [Guatemalan Christian Democracy].

The official indicated that, in meeting and issuing statements, the political parties are violating the state of siege law which suspended political activities. Nevertheless, he said that the government has been tolerant and General Rios Montt has met with them.

Referring to the political parties' document which states that the parties are the ones which should carry out the elections for government officials, Escobar Arguello said it is possible that in the future political parties will not be needed to present candidates in a general election in the country. He noted the example of France where two elections are held.

In the first, the parties and groups present candidates and then in the runoff elections, the people vote for the candidates who have gotten the most votes.

The public relations under secretary said one would have to see which sectors are not represented in the current political parties so that they can be given participation in the elections. In reply to journalists' questions, he said that those sectors would not necessarily have to be organized in parties and could instead participate as committees which would present candidates. He said that as General Rios Montt has indicated, the political panorama should be opened up to other groups that have been sidelined.

ARMED MEN SEIZE RADIO STATION, ISSUE MESSAGE

PA161606 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 17 Sep 82

[Text] Radio Frontera, which operates in Pajapita, San Marcos Department, has been attacked by armed men who broadcast a message.

MINISTER DENIES FORMER PRESIDENT TO BE ARRESTED

PA170413 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 9 Sep 82 p 2

[Text] Interior Minister Col Ricardo Mendez Ruiz said yesterday afternoon that no arrest warrant has been issued against Gen Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia, former president of the republic. The official was referring to recent statements in the press that the courts in Alta Verapaz are considering charges presented against former President Lucas and Manuel Salvador Polanco, former president of the Congress of the republic, against whom an arrest warrant has been issued.

Minister Mendez Ruiz said that the police have indeed begun to look for Polanco, whose whereabouts are still unknown, but he said that no arrest warrant has been issued against General Lucas. The minister also said that he did not know whether, as a result of the charges being heard in the courts of Coban, the case of the former president would be tried in military or civilian courts. "I do not know about that," he said in conclusion.

POLICE CHARGED WITH KIDNAPPING THREE WOMEN

PA151727 Paris AFP in Spanish 2100 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] San Jose, 14 Sep (San Jose) -- It was charged in San Jose today that Graciela Morales de Samayoa, an official at Guatemala's University of San Carlos, was kidnapped, along with her two daughters, by policemen dressed as civilians. According to the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Central America, Mrs Morales and her daughters Gloria and Maritza were kidnapped while at home, in Guatemala City's Zone 11.

Those who made the charge noted that Morales de Samayoa has been the treasurer at the University's Faculty of Economic Sciences for the last 20 years. The committee demanded that Gen Efraim Rios Montt's government "spare these three women's lives and guarantee their physical safety."

ARRESTED GANG MEMBERS LINKED TO MLN LEADER

PA161636 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] Six persons under arrest have been sent to a special court on charges of being members of a criminal band. According to the national police, the group was under the command of Mario Sandoval Alarcon's security section chief. Sandoval Alarcon heads the National Liberation Movement.

The arrested persons are: (Eusebio Garcia Vasquez), (Hugo Noe) and (Ismael Hernandez Rodriguez), (Federico Yol Estrada), (Benjamin Leiva Quiroa) and (Blanca Delia Martinez Oc), a woman.

According to the official report, their crimes include armed assault and murder. They had been using a vehicle for which the police are searching. It has been reported that the authorities have seized firearms, ammunition and grenades from the arrests. This evidence will be presented to the special court together with the group, which is in (Pabon) prison.

HOUSING PROBLEMS LINKED TO SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY

PA101310 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Excerpts] In 1982, the housing shortage in Guatemala reached its highest level since the February 1976 earthquake, according to official reports released today. According to figures released to "Here's the World," some 250,000 people lack housing in Guatemala. This information was provided by Brig Gen Federico Fuentes Corado, executive director of the committee for national reconstruction, who emphasized that clandestine subversive activity is one of the main causes of the housing shortage.

[Begin Fuentes recording] The area of conflict includes Huehuetenango, Quiche, Alta Verapaz, Baja Verapaz, El Peten, Chimaltenango, part of Totonicapan and Torola. It is a very extensive area, encompassing almost the entire area in which the largest sectarian groups of Guatemala can be found. [end recording] Fuentes added that damages caused by subversion are much greater than those caused by the 4 February earthquake. [Begin Fuentes recording] It affects the people's morale. The worst damages are caused by man. An earthquake is a natural phenomenon, whereas subversion or violence is a phenomenon invited by man. Therefore, it is very harmful. The peasants have refused to return to their areas because they are still afraid. However, as the situation has changed from red to pink, from pink to yellow, and in some areas to green -- that is, completely free of subversives -- the peasants have been very cooperative, mainly because this is for their own benefit [end recording]

Later on in the interview, Brig Gen Fuentes Corado said that the Guatemalan Army has considerably weakened the terrorist groups in the Altiplano, to the extent that their leaders are now outside of Guatemala. [Begin Fuentes recording] This is definitely the real situation. The army is in the mountains and the civilian self-defense units are in the villages. So if the guerrillas run toward a settlement they clash with the self-defense groups, and if they flee into the mountains the army chases them away. This has diminished their activity and has temporarily forced their leaders to leave the country. They are forced to remain outside our borders. They are undoubtedly preparing something for the future. I believe that their withdrawal is due to the fact that the army offensive in the countryside is intensive. Their supply of weapons has been reduced and they are probably trying to organize themselves abroad for a future offensive. Who knows what they are planning? However, they have left low-ranking commanders or leaders with their local irregular forces, [Fuerzas irregulares locales -- FIL]. These are groups of people that they have organized in the interior and which they use for subversive activities. There are no guerrillas left, only FIL. These FIL have a specific mission to harass and attack the civilian self-defense units. [end recording]

PRESIDENT DONATES PERSONAL PROPERTY TO STATE

PA170112 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 9 Sep 82 pp 4, 42, 57

[By Carlos Abasalon Galvez Mis]

[Excerpt] President Jose Efraim Rios Montt has donated land that he owns to the state for distribution to the persons who work it, according to a document that he signed in the offices of the FYDEP [National Agency for the Economic Promotion and Development of El Peten] during a visit on 7 September. I am not a farmer, he said, and I invite those who own plots of land that they are not working to return them to the state, because land is needed for distribution to Guatemalans who anxiously desire a piece of land to make it produce.

HONDURASPRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

PA161918 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Sep 82

[President Roberto Suazo Cordova's address to the nation on the occasion of Independence Day on 15 September -- recorded]

[Excerpt] The authentic independence we proclaim here today is basically related to development: economic and social development. As long as we do not solve the serious problems affecting the Central American society in general, particularly the Honduran society, we cannot honestly talk about independence. This is so because the majority of these problems stem from our subordinate and dependent position, which is basically the result of our colonial status, of our position in the world's economy, of the manner in which we began our republican life, in summary, the result of our incomplete historical development.

Therefore, we must work for our independence today, just as we did yesterday. Those who think that 15 September is merely a day for parades, proclamations or honoring the flag, are only thinking of the activities that are programmed to commemorate the date. No, 15 September should be a day for self-examination, for deep thought to determine if we have advanced along the road toward development. From 1821 to 1982, many things have happened in Honduras. Since the days of the Comayagua and Tegucigalpa Town Council meetings up to this very moment, many things have influenced the Honduran citizen. We have changed in many ways, but we continue to depend on foreign help to a great extent, as a permanent feature of our living condition. Yesterday as a Spanish colony and today as a Central American republic, we are still extremely vulnerable to what happens beyond our borders. We still do not have complete control over our own destiny, but we must always remember that this condition does not have to be permanent; it is not an unavoidable path our countries must follow forever. Neither is it a consequence of our geographical size or of the natural resources in our country. Above all it is the result of our own decision, of an internal mechanism that has to do with a certain way of proceeding, which we must eradicate once and for all from our character.

This is why independence is always a daily struggle, a unique struggle; it is our own struggle. I think that the best way to judge a government's quality is by learning what it has done to broaden our independence, whether in the political, economic or social areas, in the cultural field or in simple civic tasks. The work will be measured according to what it means for our development and freedom.

LIBERAL ALLIANCE'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT

PA161833 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Letter sent by the Peoples Alliance to Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova; date not given]

[Text] Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova, president of the republic.

Mr President: Seven months ago, our party took office with the legitimate pride of having obtained the support of a great electoral majority, with the hopes of those who seek to change a shameful past and with the enthusiasm of hard-working men of ideas who had been unjustly sidelined from the high responsibilities that the people wished to entrust to them.

In such a brief period of time and despite the fact that some affectionately describe the country as an oasis of peace, the situation has deteriorated greatly. Two of the severe ills which chronically exist in the underdeveloped countries have acquired extraordinary proportions. Silence has reached a dramatic intensity and poverty has reached levels extremely dangerous to national tranquility and to the state's security.

Although it is true that the Liberal government is not responsible for the causes of that situation since it is evident that we inherited the situation from previous bad governments and that it is part of a complex international crisis, it is fair to analyze certain aspects that the government could correct.

Although for well-known reasons, the Peoples Liberal Alliance [Alipo] does not officially share power in the government, as Liberals and Hondurans we feel affected by whatever occurs in our homeland. We have also offered to contribute civic, critical and constructive support which is the reason for this statement. Perhaps our view from a level different from that of government power may enable us in many cases to better learn what is happening to the people. At the same time, we believe we have a greater degree of objectivity which is an essential condition for criticism which, to a certain extent, should be self-criticism since we are members of the Liberal Party of Honduras.

Mr President, a government like the current one which has emerged from the inner heart of the people and the principles they expressed during the electoral campaign is obliged to walk on the path of the constitutional principles and has to guarantee human rights as defined and accepted by our Western civilization.

Mr President, within these principles, we must mention a number of incongruities that are not the result of the Alipo's imagination. Instead, they are some of daily charges by the news media, the relatives of those affected and various kinds of organizations which monitor respect for the most sacred and inviolable rights of man. All these incongruities involve nonfulfillment and disregard of the guarantees established in the country's Constitution, particularly the chapter on individual rights.

The violation of the right to life have become so frequent that we are no longer surprised by reports from neighboring countries where this has occurred for many years and which up to a short time ago distinguished Honduras from them. Cruelly mutilated and tortured bodies are found through-out the country. At the same time, the denunciations of missing people are truly alarming. The physical, mental and moral integrity of imprisoned people is not respected. Arrests for more than 24 hours without the intervention of proper authorities repeatedly take place. The same occurs with legal detention beyond the 6-day period for investigations. Arrests occur without legal arrest warrants, crimes are committed among the prisoners in jails which show the insecurity and the lack of social defense mechanisms which affect the convicts. Some of the accused complain of the violence and coercion used to force them to confess. Others are treated in an offensive and rough manner; they are found guilty before they are tried. The inviolability of homes is violated by alleged security agents. In sum, the right to inviolability and the secrecy of communications disappears with tapped telephones and mail opened arbitrarily.

Although there are still many other things which could be pointed out, we finally note that the guarantee of habeas corpus recognized by the state since the last century is perishing in the face of a disrespectful police system in which the voices of the judges are lost in the prisons in search of prisoners about whom no authority can give information.

We feel it important that we refer to recent reports on statements by a high-ranking military officer which contain serious charges which could compromise Honduras' interests. Our view is that as an organized country we should undertake an exhaustive investigation of the charges which involve threats to or discredit of the interests of the nation. If this is not done, it would have serious repercussions on the credibility of the political and administrative conduct of the current Liberal government.

The most recent and clear example can be found in the Watergate case. After an honest and correct process in which the national interests and the laws prevailed, the United States was strengthened and its citizens had increased trust in their institutions. The world applauded and admired a true democracy.

In relation to the same subject, we also think it important for us to stress that the Hondurans desire peace in Central America. We congratulated the government when it announced its proposal for the internationalization of peace and we desire that agreement to continue among the policy of the branches of government, the actions of the armed forces and the word pledged before the Honduran people and other nations.

The national situation should be presented without distortions or ambiguities. We should constantly reiterate our intentions. It is essential for us to show that in the face of the misinformation campaigns, our word is truthful, serious, honorable and trustworthy.

Today when the disgrace of drug trafficking reappears, we can state that if at the time when drug trafficking and its criminal implications were being investigated we had continued the legal process to the end, our credibility would now have been reestablished and we would be experiencing a new revitalized phase of government without having to be shamed by an embarrassing past.

In Central America we have a brilliant example of what should not be done, of what should not be imitated unless one day we want to experience the same tragic strife-torn situations. The biggest mistake in those countries has been the disrespect for individual guarantees, among those the right to life. We want no more missing people. We do not want indifference in the face of the bodies that daily appear in photographs in the newspapers. We want no more wars between brother countries. We want peace and the essential social and economic changes that will take us to an authentic social and democratic development.

Mr President, the Alipo has been faithful to its promise. We have made a frank and direct analysis. We have made our contribution as our position permits so that even with the current crisis the Honduran people can strengthen the government with our confidence, confidence that the country's new Constitution will be applied zealously and with an unwavering determination.

Very truly yours,

Carlos Roberto Reina, general coordinator of the Alipo.

Copy to Oscar Mijia Arellano, president of the Central Executive Council.

Copy to Radio America and copy for the files.

NICARAGUA

MANAGUA ON MEXICAN-VENEZUELAN INITIATIVE

PA161439 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The presidents of Mexico and Venezuela are making efforts to prevent war between Honduras and Nicaragua, as promoted by Yankee imperialism. Not only the danger, but the risks involved in a war between Honduras and Nicaragua, openly sponsored by U.S. imperialism, prompted the chiefs of state of Mexico and Venezuela to intervene in efforts to neutralize any action that may lead to an armed confrontation between the neighboring Central American countries.

It was learned yesterday in Washington that Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo and his Venezuelan colleague, Luis Herrera Campins, sent a joint letter to Presidents Ronald Reagan of the United States, Roberto Suazo Cordova of Honduras and Commander Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua, exhorting them to explore the paths that are still open to stop the increase of tensions which further deepen the crisis.

Since the rise to power by the Sandinist revolutionary government, Honduras has provided facilities to counterrevolutionary Somozist groups and other elements linked to the past Nicaraguan regime, which has provoked constant border clashes and mutual charges and protest notes from both governments.

However, the news dispatches that report the joint action of the governments of Mexico and Venezuela admit that Nicaragua, which has announced its decision to defend itself against armed aggression, has always maintained a proper attitude toward dialogue with the top civilian and military leaders of the Honduran Government, in an effort to find a peaceful solution to their differences. The reports note Nicaragua's proper attitude toward dialogue with the U.S. Government and its proposing several capitals for such talks.

FOREIGN MINISTER D'ESCOTO APPEALS FOR AREA UNITY

PA162253 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1215 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Managua, 16 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaragua yesterday made an appeal to the Central American peoples to struggle "against those who seek to divide us" and also came out in favor of the unity of those who live in this region, in line with the dream of Honduran Gen Francisco Morazan.

This was the main topic of a speech delivered in this capital by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto during a ceremony marking the 161st anniversary of the common independence of Central America from the Spanish crown, attended by Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction [JGRN], and Rafael Cordova Rivas, JGRN member.

Speaking before the diplomatic corps accredited here, cabinet members and government officials, D'Escoto said that "it is a sad fact that as of today, neither the total independence nor the Central American unity proclaimed on 1 July 1823 have become a reality."

D'Escoto said that it is painful to confirm that initiatives as important as getting the Central American foreign ministers together in Costa Rica after 8 years of not meeting have not been achieved. He added that this effort to hold a meeting of the foreign ministers of the region, has remained "totally forgotten and annulled," just like "the San Jose Declaration" (Costa Rica) of 15 March 1980.

"We hope," he added, "that by casting aside formulas imposed from abroad we will all reach the conviction that direct and frank dialogue among the authorities of the isthmus is the best manner to review the situation of the region in its political, economic, and social aspects."

D'Escoto added that only "intransigent Central American patriotism" will permit building the great fatherland that all Central Americans want and that the peoples of this region have the right to build in peace and liberty. "The unity of Central America, until we achieve the dream of Morazan, continues to be a common aspiration of all our peoples." Yet, on the other hand, "the wish to dominate us, to try to impose on us rules of political, social, and economic development to hinder our real independence, characterizes the policy of the empire in power today just as it did yesterday," the foreign minister stated.

Jesus Morales Fernandez, Costa Rican ambassador in Nicaragua, spoke representing the diplomatic corps. He stressed that for 161 years of independent life the Central American peoples have struggled "to forge and consolidate independence." The Costa Rican ambassador said that at this moment when all humanity, and particularly the Central American nations, is experiencing a difficult economic and political situation, "we beseech God that the coming years will hold a better destiny for our peoples."

GOVERNMENT MINISTER COMMENTS ON MISKITO PROBLEM

PM151105 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 15 Sep 82 p 5

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Adamson: "Nicaragua Removes Indians"]

[Excerpts] North-east Nicaragua has been turned into a war zone as a result of cross-border raids from Honduras by Miskito Indians and other opponents of the revolutionary regime, according to a Nicaraguan Government minister visiting London. The picture painted by Senior Gallio Gurdian indicates that 20 percent of the Miskitos, a tribe with long historical links with Britain, have either fled into Honduras or been forcibly resettled well away from the border.

All their villages on the Nicaraguan bank of the Rio Coco border with Honduras are now empty. Senior Gurdian, who as head of the Atlantic Coast Institute is responsible for resettling the Indians, denied accusations that the regime had committed genocide against them.

"It is a big lie," he said.

He claimed that no lives had been lost during the removal of 8,000 Miskitos from the Rio Coco to Seben Benk, 40 miles from the frontier. On the other hand frequent raids from Honduras since the beginning of July had caused casualties, notably on July 4, when 96 died. Sixty others had died in fighting on the upper Rio Coco. According to Senior Gurdian's figures, 10,000 Miskitos had fled to Honduras, among them a hard core of 3,000 men aged between 16 and 40. They have been given military training by Argentine special forces and some American Green Berets, he said.

He accepted that the Sandinista government had made mistakes in its handling of the Miskitos, largely through not understanding the Caribbean side of the country.

The region, a British protectorate for part of the past century, has a largely mainly Jamaican black, English-speaking population and a tradition of hostility to its nominal rulers in Managua, the Nicaraguan capital.

Senior Gurdian acknowledged that the late dictator Somoza, whom the Sandinistas overthrew, was more subtle in his dealings with the region. His regime coincided with the Miskitos' gold age: "When they could buy levis and whiskey."

Senior Gurdian's remarks follow reports that the regime's heavy-handed tactics forced the Miskitos into rebellion and led to a great many deaths.

The French organization, Medicine Without Frontiers has produced figures suggesting the Sandinistas could well be held directly responsible for well over 100 killings.

DELEGATION SEEKS SUPPORT AT IPU CONFERENCE

PA161506 Managua International Service in Spanish 0230 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] Managua, Nicaragua -- Our presence at the 69th IPU conference will strive to awaken Europe's conscience so that this continent may turn its eyes toward Central America and take definite steps to prevent an attack from imperialism in the region, specifically an attack on Nicaragua. Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council made this statement on his departure for Rome, where IPU annual conference will be held. The danger of war in Central America is no longer a hidden threat and will become an imminent reality if the world's progressive and democratic forces do not create a strong barrier that will stop the escalation of imperialism's attacks in the region.

With this proposal, with this message of peace with dignity for Central America, the delegation representing the Nicaraguan State Council will participate in IPU's 69th conference.

The "Today, Here, Now" program reports on this:

Headed by Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of free Nicaragua's State Council, the delegation from this national colegislative institution left for Rome over the weekend. Commander Nunez is accompanied by Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, vice president of the State Council; Domingo Sanchez, second vice president of the State Council and member of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party; Guillermo Mejia of the People's Socialist Christian Party; and Angela Rosa Acevedo, the Nicaraguan Women's Association representative. The IPU conference in Rome will center its discussions on the problem of arms buildup and will particularly analyze the recent armed conflict in Lebanon.

On his departure for Rome, Commander Nunez said that the present serious crisis in Central America will probably be analyzed at the conference, in view of the danger of war in the region. Nunez said that our delegation will try to create awareness, not only among the parliamentary groups participating in the meeting, but also among European politicians, so that they may make specific proposals, in an effort to build a barrier that will force imperialism to refrain from carrying on its adventurous policy in Central America. He added that we will also take advantage of this opportunity to reduce the misinformation that presently exists at international levels regarding the situation in Central America, particularly the Nicaraguan revolution.

Commander Nunez noted that Nicaragua is in favor of disarmament, but that this cannot be analyzed apart from the Central American situation, from the present political, economic, and social conditions. The problem of disarmament in Central America is closely linked with U.S. policy in the region, since the United States supplies an enormous amount of weapons to countries such as Honduras and El Salvador. Furthermore, a real army to invade Nicaragua is being formed. Since it cannot be built on the U.S. territory, an army is being armed in Honduran territory, with the participation of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. This is an army with the regular characteristics, to be used as spearhead for a much larger attack on the Sandinist people's revolution, Commander Nunez stressed.

Central America is affected by the continuing increase of tensions. In view of the failure of the reactionary imperialist strategy to crush the struggles in El Salvador and Guatemala, and to destabilize the Nicaraguan revolution, an armed attack is a distinct possibility.

The Malvinas conflict dismantled the scheme of forces set up by Washington to impose its conditions by using military force in Central America. The idea of using military contingents from South American countries to attack Nicaragua was temporarily out of the question when the White House sided with the UK in its attack on the Malvinas.

However, the aggressive plan did not end there. It was necessary for the imperialism to readjust its strategy and use more reliable forces to stage its attack on Nicaragua. The amount of weapons sent to help counterrevolutionary groups based in Honduras was considerably increased. The armed bands that sporadically attacked Nicaraguan border posts developed into real military units, regular corps, with characteristics similar to those of an army. Two months ago, the Sandinist People's Army [words indistinct] from Honduran territory, which was made up of approximately 200 soldiers, carrying powerful war materiel and light artillery.

In addition, military aid for the Honduran Army has been increased, as well as the number of U.S. military advisers based in that country. At the same time, a warmongering atmosphere was instilled in the Honduran armed forces, preparing them for combat at any moment.

Finally, U.S. warships frequently enter Nicaraguan territorial waters, which reminds us of the publicity maneuver at the Gulf of Tonquin, which served as a pretext for U.S. involvement in the Vietnam war.

The presence of Nicaragua at the 69th IPU Conference [words indistinct] presently experienced in Central America.

At the conference of parliamentary representatives from all over the world, specific proposals must be made to stop and prevent the continuation of the warmongering plans affecting the Central American isthmus. The present situation demands this, as we still have time to prevent the outbreak of another war against the sovereignty and independence of the peoples.

FDN REPORTEDLY DESTROYS SOVIET EQUIPMENT

PA162131 (Clandestine) Radio 15 September in Spanish to Nicaragua 0230 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] On 29 August the freedom commands of the Nicaraguan Democratic Forces, FDN, carried out an operation in the central part of the country in which they destroyed numerous pieces of Soviet equipment used by the bloody, atheistic and totalitarian FSLN dictatorship.

The FDN revolutionary combatants and nationalists on 28 August seized the communist Iyas camp, located some 27 km east of (Wasala) in the central mountains of Nicaragua, and destroyed 60 vehicles, including military transport trucks and vehicles carrying antiaircraft weapons and [word indistinct] rocket launchers. The vehicles and weapons were to be used in the construction of a military runway and installations to suppress the Nicaraguan people.

During this operation the commander of the Marxist base of Iyas, thought to be a Cuban, was killed.

After fully accomplishing their mission, the liberty commands withdrew in an orderly fashion to their operational bases somewhere in Nicaragua.

BRIEFS

AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS MEETING -- The second meeting of the Regional Technical Commission of Telecommunications of Central America [Comision Tecnica Regional de Telecomunicaciones de Centroamerica -- Contelca] began yesterday at the Camino Real Hotel, with the participation of delegations from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica, with a Panamanian delegation as a special guest. The objective of the 3-day meeting is to discuss proposals on unifying the telecommunications rates in Central America, [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 7 Sep 82 p 5 PA]

CARGO BOAT FROM FRG -- The FRG ambassador to Nicaragua last weekend turned over a cargo boat to Nicaraguan authorities. On receiving the vessel at the Atlantic port of Bluff, Nicaraguan Transportation Minister Carlos Zarruck said that it would be used for transporting cargo in that part of the country, which had been neglected by the Somoza regime, [Managua International Service in Spanish 0230 GMT 14 Sep 82 PA]

PINEIRO ADDRESSES C.A. INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION

FL161156 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0936 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The Cuban people and party are celebrating, along with our Central American brothers, the 161st anniversary of the area's independence, said Central Committee member Manuel Pineiro in his speech closing the ceremony in Havana marking the anniversary. Pineiro, who also heads the Americas Department of the Central Committee, noted that with that significant feat, the Central American nations began a new historical phase, and too soon the domination of the colonial metropolis had been replaced by a far crueler one.

He went on to say that from the start, Ronald Reagan defined his policy toward the peoples of the area as a test of imperialist strength worldwide. Today's world is different, Pineiro stressed, and the U.S. President's expectations of regaining world domination might turn into a terrible nightmare for the United States.

(Felix Torres), a member of the mission of El Salvador's FMLN in Cuba, spoke at the ceremony, addressing the present situation in the area. Torres noted that all of mankind is living in crucial times and that not since World War II had world peace been so weakened as now. Torres added that U.S. imperialism fosters, supports and abets all forms of aggression against liberated peoples building a new society.

The FMLN representative stressed that these 161 years of struggle and fighting were about to end in final independence and that the self-determination of Central America's peoples was an inalienable right that no one could deny.

CTC Anniversary Message

FL151300 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] The Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC] has expressed its unyielding support to Central American countries and their patriotic forces, which are today engaged in a heroic struggle against dictatorial governments, on the occasion of the 161st anniversary of their independence from the Spanish colonial yoke, which is commemorated on 15 September.

FIDEL CASTRO ATTENDS MEXICAN AWARDS CEREMONY

FL151930 [Editorial Report] Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish at 0030 GMT on 15 September carries delayed telecast of a ceremony in which Mexican Ambassador to Cuba Rodolfo Echeverria Ruiz presents the Order of the Mexican Eagle, Mexico's highest award, to Cuban dancer Alicia Alonso, painter Rene Portocarrero, and national poet Nicolas Guillen at Cuba's Palace of the Revolution.

As coverage begins, the camera pans a large hall showing Cuban President Fidel Castro entering accompanied by the recipients of the award and the Mexican ambassador. They walk to a line formed by Politburo members Juan Almeida, Ramir Valdez, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Osvaldo Dorticos and Armando Hart, among others, while ceremonial music is played. Applause follows and Mexican Ambassador Echeverria Ruiz delivers a 15-minute speech praising the friendship between Mexico and Cuba, noting:

"Our friendship certainly did not begin on the morning of the first day of 1959. Neither did it begin when Mexico refused to become an accomplice in the maneuver to isolate the Cuban revolution." He then reviews historical revolutionary ties and hails the cultural contributions of the award recipients to the liberation of the peoples.

The ambassador ends his speech and presents the Order of the Mexican Eagle to the recipients. Following the presentation, Nicolas Guillen delivers a 6-minute acceptance speech expressing his gratitude and that of the other two recipients.

Fidel Castro then hugs the three recipients and the camera returns to the studio.

COMMUNICATIONS DELEGATION VISITS CZECHOSLOVAKIA

FL142230 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Prague -- Cuban Communications Minister Pedro Guelmes Gonzalez has arrived here on a working visit to Czechoslovakia. Guelmes Gonzalez was received at the air terminal by CSSR Communications Minister Vlastimil Chalupa, Cuban Ambassador Sidroc Ramos and other Cuban and CSSR officials.

According to reports, talks regarding bilateral cooperation in postal, telecommunications and radio communications have begun. After some work sessions, the visitors toured Prague communication centers.

Vietnamese Communications Minister Dong Si Nguyen, who is also visiting Czechoslovakia, accompanied the Cuban delegation on its tour.

Press Release Issued

FL161445 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1414 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Cuba and the CSSR are studying the prospects for expanding mutual cooperation in the area of communications, it has been officially announced in Prague. A press release issued at the conclusion of a meeting between Cuban Communications Minister Pedro Guelmes and CSSR Deputy Premier Rudolf Rohlicek notes that conditions exist for more extensive cooperation.

Agreement Signed

FL162020 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1816 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Cuba and Czechoslovakia today signed a communications agreement which signals a step forward in communications cooperation. In statements for PRENSA LATINA, Cuban Communications Minister Pedro Guelmes said he considers the relations his ministry has developed with the Czechoslovak radio-electronics industry particularly positive.

The bilateral cooperation in the communications sector makes possible technical progress and the improvement of communications systems, particularly for Cuba having Czechoslovak cooperation.

During his visit to Czechoslovakia, which began this week, the Cuban communications minister toured centers of economic interest in Prague. He also held a meeting with CSSR Deputy Premier Rohlicek, with whom he discussed possibilities for expanding bilateral cooperation.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA, GUYANA SIGN AGREEMENT IN HAVANA

FL160215 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2021 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] The CSSR and the Cooperative Republic of Guyana today signed a 5-year cultural and scientific-technical agreement in Havana. The agreement was signed by Milos Vojta, CSSR ambassador to Cuba and Guyana, and Cecil Stanley Pilgrim, Guyana's ambassador to Cuba.

The agreement establishes exchanges in the areas of education, cinematography, literature, the arts, and science and sets up reciprocal visits by cultural delegations. The ambassadors stressed the importance of the agreement for strengthening relations between the two governments and peoples and for improving tasks in the cultural and scientific fields.

FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER HOLDS TALKS IN JAPAN

FL161850 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1807 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas today held several meetings with Japanese business executives and government officials to review the status of economic and trade relations between the two countries.

Cabrizas met with Kichiro Tazawa, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, (Haruo Maekagawa), president of the Bank of Japan, and with the presidents of the firms Ino motors and Mitsubishi. During the meeting with Tazawa, a review of Cuban-Japan trade relations was made, especially trade in sugar and seafood products, which are highly valued by consumers in that Asian nation.

Ricardo Cabrizas will meet tomorrow with the president of the Ex-Im Bank and other industry, trade and private banking officials. He will depart for our country on Saturday.

SERGIO DEL VALLE ON OFFICIAL VISIT IN DPRK

FL161330 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1305 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Pyongyang -- Sergio del Valle, member of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and health minister, started an official visit to the DPRK today.

The Cuban health minister was welcomed by several DPRK officials and by Ricardo Danza, the Cuban ambassador to the DPRK.

NATIONAL BANK DELEGATION ARRIVES IN PARIS

FL161410 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1403 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Raul Leon Torras, minister president of Cuba's National Bank, arrived today in Paris at the head of a delegation that will meet with French financial and banking authorities. The Cuban delegation visited Great Britain and Spain earlier with the same end in mind. Leon Torras said that the delegation was favorably received in these last two countries.

LAWYERS RECEIVED BY HUNGARY'S TRAUTMANN

FL161702 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Budapest -- Rezso Trautmann, vice president of the Presidential Council of Hungary, has received a delegation of Cuban lawyers visiting the country at the invitation of the Supreme Court. Trautmann and the Cuban delegation, headed by the president of the Supreme People's Tribunal, Jose Raul Amaro, examined relations between the two courts.

COOPERATION MEETING WITH ANGOLA OPENS IN HAVANA

FL160230 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Lopo do Nascimento, member of the Central Committee of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party and minister of planning, and Hector Rodriguez Llompart, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, today opened in Havana the meeting of presidents of the joint inter-governmental committee for cooperation between the two governments.

PINEIRO, CHILEAN RADICAL PARTY OFFICIALS MEET

FL141644 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Manuel Pineiro, member of the Central Committee and chief of its America Department, has met with Anselmo Sule Candia, first secretary of Chile's Radical Party [PR] and vice president of the Socialist International. The meeting, which was held in a fraternal and friendly atmosphere, touched on current international issues, especially those concerning Latin America and the Caribbean and Chile's domestic situation.

Also taking part in the meeting were (Alejandro Dorna), in charge of the Western Europe section of the PR, and Leoncio Saavedra, the PR's representative in Cuba.

GRENADABISHOP LEAVES ON 3-DAY VISIT TO FRANCE

FL160115 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] Prime Minister Maurice Bishop left here today on a 3-day official visit to France. Prime Minister Bishop was accompanied by a high-level delegation, including Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Unison Whiteman, Grenada's ambassador to France, Mario Bullen, and the director of the budget office, Bernard la Corbiniere.

Just prior to his departure this afternoon, Prime Minister Bishop told local journalists that the visit was very important as it would give (?the delegation) an opportunity to hold discussions with the French Government at the highest possible level. He said the delegation will be holding talks with President Francois Mitterrand, the minister in charge of technical cooperation, Jean Pierre Cotte, and Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson. He described Foreign Minister Cheysson, in particular, as being a friend of Grenada.

[Begin Bishop recording] In fact, Foreign Minister Cheysson was the person who was mainly responsible [words indistinct] in April of 1981. He was then in charge of overseas developments. [Passage indistinct]. [end recording]

Prime Minister Bishop said there would also be an exchange of views on regional and international matters between PRG [People's Revolutionary Government] and French Government officials. He pointed to last year's joint declaration by the French and Mexican Governments calling for dialogue to resolve the problems in Central America and contrasted this with the position of the United States. Grenada, he said, has supported the Franco-Mexican declaration, as the PRG believes the problems in Central America can be solved only through discussion.

He said that since the government of President Mitterrand came to power, France had shown that it is a country committed to the principles of sovereignty, mutual respect and non-interference. He recalled the protest from the United States when President Mitterrand appointed [word indistinct] Communist members of parliament to his cabinet, and noted that the reasons [words indistinct] of the Mitterrand administration was to point out to the United States that the appointments to the French cabinet was the business of France and France alone.

Prime Minister Bishop also pointed to the French Government's resistance to American efforts to block the construction of the natural gas pipeline from the Soviet Union to Western Europe.

[Begin Bishop recording] All of this is (?very disheartening) for us because we ourselves have historic problems and particularly since the revolution have various problems with the United States administration at this time. And therefore [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

While in Paris, the prime minister will address the Executive Board of UNESCO. He will also meet with UNESCO's director general, Amadou M'Bow who visited Grenada in July.